The Eighth Annual Report

Of the Board of Foreign Missions,

Of the United Presbyterian Church,

Of North America.

Presented to the General Assembly in May, 1867.

Philadelphia: George S. Ferguson Printer, 25 North Sixth St. 1867.
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Philadelphia:
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1867.
The Board of Foreign Missions.

President:
REV. JOSEPH T. COOPER, D. D.

Executive Committee:
REV. JOSEPH T. COOPER, D. D.,
  " JOHN B. DALES, D. D.,
  " FRANCIS CHURCH,
  " W. W. BARR,
  " THOMAS H. HANNA,
SAMUEL C. HUEY,
JOHN M. WALLACE,
WILLIAM GETTY,
THOMAS STINSON.

Corresponding Secretary:
REV. JOHN B. DALES, D. D.

Recording Secretary:
REV. FRANCIS CHURCH.

Treasurer:
THOMAS B. RICH,
190 Elizabeth St., New York.

This Board meets on the Second Tuesday of each month at 2½ P. M.
CONSTITUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.
ADOPTED MAY, 1859.

I. There shall be a Board of Foreign Missions, appointed by and amenable to the Assembly.

II. It shall consist of nine members, who shall hold their office three years, and five of whom shall constitute a quorum. Of those first chosen, three shall go out of office annually in the order of their names; and thereafter three shall annually be elected by the Assembly.

III. The Board shall be located in the City of Philadelphia.

IV. The Board shall meet quarterly, and as much oftener as necessary; and shall hold its first meeting on the third Tuesday of June, 1859, at ten o’clock, A.M., in the Second Church.

V. The Board shall have power to fill any vacancies occurring therein during the year, and shall be styled, "The Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

VI. To this Board shall be intrusted, with such directions and instructions as may from time to time be given by the Assembly, the superintendence of the Foreign Missionary operations of the Church.

VII. The Board shall make to the Assembly an annual report of its proceedings, its condition, and its needs, and shall submit for approval such plans and measures as may be deemed necessary or useful.

VIII. To the Board shall belong the duty, though not the exclusive right, of nominating to the Assembly, Missionaries and Agents, and of designating fields of labor: to them shall belong the duty of receiving the reports of the Corresponding Secretary: of giving him needful directions in reference to all matters of business and correspondence entrusted to him; of preparing for the Assembly estimates of all appropriations and expenditures of money; and of taking the particular direction and oversight of the Foreign Missionary work—subject to the revision and control of the Assembly.

IX. All property, houses, lands, tenements, and permanent funds, belonging to the Board, shall be taken in the name of the Trustees of the Assembly, and held in trust by them for the use and benefit of "The Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

X. The Board shall have power to enact its own By-Laws.

XI. This Constitution shall not be changed unless by a vote of two-thirds of the General Assembly present at any of its sessions, of which notice shall be given at least one day previously.

XII. The Board shall submit an abstract of its condition, proceedings, wants and plans, to the several Synods of the Church at their annual meetings.
Missions and Missionaries.

Syria.
Rev. John Crawford and wife,* Damascus.
Yabrud.
Nebk.
Deir-Atiyeh.
Rasheiyah.
Ain-esah Sha’arah
Ma’ara.

Rev. Andrew Gordon and wife,* Sealkote.
Rev. E. H. Stevenson and wife,*
Rev. Samuel Martin and wife,
Rev. G. W. Scott,
Miss E. G. Gordon,
Mr. Jas. W. Gordon and wife,
Rev. E. P. Swift,
Rev. Jas. S. Barr and wife,

India.

Rev. Andrew Watson and wife,* Gujranwala.
Rev. E. Currie,
Rev. B. F. Pinkerton and wife,
Rev. Gulian Lansing, D. D., and wife,
Rev. J. Barnett, D. D., and wife,
Mr. David Strang and wife,
Miss Sarah Hart,
Rev. S. C. Ewing and wife,* Ein Sakeen. (Cairo.)
Rev. Wm. Harvey and wife,
Rev. John Hogg and wife,
Miss M. J. McKown,

Egypt.

Rev. W. G. Moorehead and wife, Sarzanna.
Siena.
Carrara.
Torano.
Porto Ferraio.

* Now in this country.
REPORT
OF THE
Board of Foreign Missions.

In presenting their Eighth Annual Report to the General Assembly, the Board of Foreign Missions gratefully record the goodness of God during the past year. No one of our missions has been abandoned or in any way interrupted. None of our missionaries or their families have been visited by death, and though some of them have suffered from the effects of long and arduous labours and exposure, and in some cases been laid aside for a time, yet it is believed rest and the proper use of means will be blessed, and that ere long they will be able to resume their places in their great work. In most of our missions encouraging accessions have been made to the native churches and schools, and in no year probably have there ever been more gratifying evidences that labour has not been in vain in the Lord.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

During the year the Board has held its regular meetings, and as the General Assembly have appointed, as its members, persons who are within convenient reach of the place of meeting, the average attendance has been larger than in any previous year, and thus the great advantage has been had of more general and able deliberation upon every question that required consideration.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The last General Assembly appropriated $100,000 for the foreign missionary operations of the church during the year. On the 1st of May there was a balance in the treasury of $10,854.65. During the year, up to the 30th of April, there were received from all sources $61,955.10, making, with the balance in the beginning of the year, a total of $72,809.75. During the year the whole amount expended was $68,252.78, leaving thus a difference of $4,256.97 between the amounts received and expended, and a deficiency of $27,190.25 to meet the whole sum appropriated by the Assembly. There is occasion in this for gratitude for what God has enabled the churches and friends of missions to contribute for this cause—and also of deep and anxious sorrow that there has been a lack of so much that was desired, and for which the work, and possibly some of the missionaries, have severely suffered. If, too, this deficiency continues, what shall we do? And the Board anxiously submit the question to the Assembly, whether in view of it any more missionaries should be sent out or any new expenses contracted, until such deficiencies are fully made up?

BEQUESTS.

The Board have much pleasure in mentioning that several liberal and timely bequests have come into the treasury, or are in the way of being
received. One of these, amounting to four thousand eight hundred dollars in United States bonds and notes, and which it was feared would fail to reach its intended object, has been secured through the generous and well-directed efforts of A. W. Taylor, Esq., of Indiana, Pa. The thanks of the Assembly are due to Mr. Taylor for his eminent services. In this bequest and in others received or about to be, the Board most gratefully recognize the privilege and the duty of Christians who have received so much at the hands of a gracious God to make Christ and His cause their heirs.

MISSIONARIES ELECT.

At the last Assembly Messrs. Samuel Martin, Wm. S. Owens, J. C. Taggart, W. R. Stewart, and Miss Myra McCaughey were appointed to the foreign work. The first, Mr. Samuel Martin, having accepted the appointment, was ordained to the office of the ministry, and together with his wife, (Miss Lydia Mossman,) sailed in October for the mission at Sealkote, in North India. Miss McCaughey felt constrained to decline the appointment. The remainder of the persons not having completed their course of studies preparatory for the ministry, and not being advised, as far as could be ascertained, by any of the missionaries to engage in the foreign missionary work until they had fully entered the ministry, did not see their way clear to go. None of the missions, therefore, except that in India, have had any re-enforcements sent them during the year.

BENEFACTIONS.

During the year numerous acts of liberality and kindness have been done, of which the Board make grateful mention. David Stuart, Esq., of Liverpool, England, has generously continued his kind offices to our missionaries in going to and returning from their work. His Highness, the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, has contributed again largely for the support of the missionaries and the carrying on of the operations of the Printing Press in Egypt. The American Tract Society has renewed its liberal grants of previous years to our missions in China and Egypt, and most timely and useful favours have been done our missions by the British and Foreign, and the American Bible Societies; by the managers of the Press of the American Board at Beirut, Syria; by the Turkish Missions Aid Society, in London, and by numerous Christian friends in England and Scotland, who through Rev. John Hogg contributed especially for furnishing a building and educating a gospel ministry at Osioot, in Upper Egypt. All these favours have been of signal service, and richly deserve the gratitude of the Assembly and of the whole church.

MISSIONS.

In noticing the different missions, they may be mentioned in the order of their history:

I.—Trinidad.

One of the West India Islands. Population about 70,000. Mission Station, Savannah Grande. Mission commenced in 1843.

This mission, though not formally occupied now by our United Presbyterian Church, has the honour of being the beginning of our foreign mission work. In the little village of Jere, near San Fernando, we have
a convenient mission chapel and house, both of which are in good repair, and there is still a church organization. Two faithful elders have kept up its meetings for conference and prayer; and with a most commendable spirit, the Rev. George Lambert, a minister of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, labouring in San Fernando, has conducted services there on some portion of the Sabbath and in the week during the year. In the church, at the prayer meetings, and in the Sabbath schools the attendance has been good. But now it is believed far more ought to be done than can be, as things are, for the evangelization of the place and the surrounding district, and accordingly the Rev. Mr. Lambert has forwarded to us a most urgent appeal for our church to revive the mission, and have it immediately occupied by a missionary from this country. In this he is joined by the Rev. George Brodie, of Port of Spain, who has also laid us under many obligations by his kindness in helping to care for the mission. While this application was before the Board, a letter of excellent spirit was received from the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the Lower Provinces of British America, inquiring in regard to this mission, and informing us of the possibility of their being able to undertake its occupancy if we could not. After deliberation, the Board concluded, in view of the fact that the missions which we have abroad are now constantly demanding all the men and means we can provide, it would not be expedient for us to assume this new work—and further, as the General Assembly has authorized the transfer of this mission to a sister church that could properly assume it, it would therefore be best to proffer it to the above Board, and have written to them accordingly. This step is deemed a wise one, and it is fondly hoped that in the hands of this sister evangelical church, so largely of like precious faith and practice with ourselves, this early, and to many of our people, very dear, mission of our church will yet happily prosper and be greatly blessed.

II.—Syria.


Stations.—Yabrud, Nebk, Der-Attar, Rashshah, Ain-rish Sha'rah, Ma'ara. Missionary labourers :—only native teachers and helpers.

Summer Residence.—Bleptan, about 20 miles from Damasus, on Mt. Lebanon.

This mission has continued its usual course during the year. After being almost nine years in the field, and for the last two or three without any fellow-labourer from our church, and being much worn down with over-labour and the increasing demands of the work, the Rev. John Crawford, our missionary, felt constrained to withdraw for a season with his family, and accordingly during the last autumn returned to this country. He has been greatly benefited by the change, and proposes embarking for his mission again during the coming August. But most pressingly does he ask for at least one well qualified missionary and family to go out with him to this now truly needy and inviting field for Christian labour. Rev. Samuel Robson and Rev. Wm. Wright, the co-labourers of Mr. Crawford from the Irish Presbyterian Church, have been able to continue at their posts.
In this mission, Damascus is the central point. Here a convenient church edifice has been erected during the past year without any charge upon our treasury, and the ordinances of grace have been regularly dispensed. Both boys' and girls' schools have been uninterruptedly carried on, and much gospel truth has been taught. In nearly all the out stations, as at Yabrud, Nebk, Deir Ateiyeh, Kasheya, Ain-esh Sha'rah, the schools have been kept open throughout the year, and the word has been occasionally preached. In this mission the language used is the Arabic, as in Egypt, and the call is frequent and most earnest to enter into the neighbouring villages and teach the long ignorant people the way of life. Truly the harvest is plenteous—but the labourers are few.

Of this Mission the Rev. Mr. Crawford says:—

In reviewing the operations of the Syrian Mission during the past year, it is felt that we have much reason for gratitude to God and encouragement in our work.

The ministers of the congregation of the mission have been continued throughout the year without interruption, and the attendance upon them has been most encouraging. The room in which public worship has been held, has always been crowded, and the need of a larger and more commodious place has been felt more than ever before. Strangers coming to the service and not finding sufficient room have gone away discouraged and have not returned.

It is, however, gratifying to be able to state that during the year the mission has been erecting a small but neat and substantial church in an eligible location in the city. Information has just been received that the building is completed, and was opened with appropriate services on the first Sabbath of June. The occasion was one of very great interest. Mr. Robson assisted in the opening exercises by Mr. Calhoun, an excellent and well-known missionary of the American Board in Syria. The audience numbered nearly two hundred persons. I cannot refrain from copying here some extracts from a private letter from Mr. Robson, dated June 11th, and just received. He says:—“With humble thankfulness to Almighty God, I am able to inform you that our new church was opened for public worship on Sabbath, the 2nd inst. Mr. Calhoun kindly came and conducted the services. He preached two very excellent sermons, one in the morning on Acts vii., 47-50, and one in the afternoon on Heb. xi., 5—The hearers were gratified, and, some at least, I trust, will be through the blessing of God touched and profited. The congregation in the morning was much larger than I expected. The church was pretty well filled even on the women's side. Centuries have passed since so large a number of people assembled in Damascus to hear the Gospel preached in its purity. Many of those present never heard a Gospel sermon before, nor witnessed the simple, solemn worship of a Scriptural Church. On last Sabbath morning I preached from Psalm cxxii., 1. The congregation was nearly or quite as large as that which attended the opening service, while the attendance in the afternoon was larger than that of the afternoon of the previous Sabbath. I was surprised as well as gratified, for I had not expected more than our usual congregation.

It is nearly twenty-one years since the first missionaries from your church—Brothers Barnett and Paulding—entered on their work in Damascus. They were among the first foreign missionaries from any branch of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. It is twenty-three years since I came to Syria. Slow and difficult and interrupted as our work has been, I have seen a great and hopeful change, for which I am glad and thankful. During those past years we have had to remove our Sabbath services from house to house, and from room to room, and none of the places temporarily occupied were suitable for the public worship of a congregation. At last we have obtained, through the goodness of God, a place of worship, plain indeed, but commodious and substantial, and at the same time appropriate and becoming. And unless ruined by earthquakes or war, it will remain, I doubt not, for the children, and the children's children of those who shared in the opening services.

It is the first Protestant church built in this ancient city, and the only one in which the Gospel of the grace of God is preached or has been preached for centuries past. It is the only place where God is worshipped without the use of images or pictures, or any other way not appointed in his word. To me this house, thus dedicated to the service of the living God, seems like the pillar which Jacob set up in Bethel—a witness of his vows and a memorial of God's mercy—or like the altar which Moses built in the wilderness and named Jehovah-Nissi; or like the Ebenezer of Samuel, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.'
I am prolix on this topic, yet I am restraining myself. I really feel more deeply than I anticipated. It is something to see nearly two hundred hearers listening to the Gospel preached in a church of our own, so neat and comfortable as to be almost universally approved, and that after all our difficulties and trials for many years past.

The interior dimensions of the building are fifty feet in length by thirty in width. The walls are of stone, and the roof of good spruce timber from the United States, covered with galvanized iron from England. Every part of the work has been carried on under the careful supervision of the missionaries. It is not only well done, but it is confidently believed that it could not have been done more economically. The cost of the building alone has been about £1,200 Sterling, or $6,000 in gold. The cost of the lot, which is large enough also for such other buildings as the mission needs, was about £300. All this was paid from funds for some time in the hands of the mission. Of these funds only about £360 were contributed by the churches in Ireland and the United States more than a dozen years ago. The remainder consisted of donations from persons not belonging to our own churches, together with the increase arising from judicious investments. The principal donation was one of £300 given by Miss Bromfield, an English lady whose brother died in Damascus, and was attended and cared for during his illness by some of our missionaries.

The mission is in great need of a school house, together with rooms for our book depot and other mission purposes. It is estimated that the cost of these will be ten or eleven hundred pounds. We have been prompt in completing the enclosure about the lot, including the gate and fence, only at the entrance to the church, and some other things connected with it, there will remain of our funds about £400. We shall be obliged therefore to appeal to the churches for £600 or £700. Our church is asked to furnish one-half of this sum, say, at the most, £300, which at present rates of exchange would be equivalent to something less than $2,500 in currency. Considering our great need of such a building, together with the fact that for more than a dozen years no special appeal in behalf of the Syrian mission has been made to the church for anything above its ordinary and current expenses, which have been small, it is confidently believed that the aid now asked for will be cheerfully and promptly furnished. When the school building is erected, and our plans thus completed, we shall have very suitable and satisfactory mission premises, not showy or grand, but simple and appropriate, and at the same time substantial and enduring. It is true they will not include residences for the missionaries, nor anything else for their private comfort and convenience, and so far may be regarded as deficient, yet they will be all that is actually required for the work of the mission at present.

There has been an unusual degree of religious interest during the winter and spring among the members of our congregation in the city. Not only have they been attentive to the preaching of the word on the Sabbath, but they have also been accustomed to meet together two evenings of each week, in the house of some one of their number, thus going around their houses in rotation, for prayer, reading of the Scriptures and religious conference.

The schools of the city have prospered during the year, and the attendance upon them has increased. The boys' school in the Christian quarter became so large that it was thought best to divide it, and employ a second teacher. There are about forty girls in the girls' school. Last summer a school was opened in a quarter of the city called the Medan, at the request of a number of Druze families residing there. The pupils are of both sexes, and are nearly all children of Druzes. Application has also been made to us, by Druze residents in the villages, for schools for their children, and in making these applications they expressly consent that the instruction in the schools shall be purely Christian, that the Scriptures shall be used, and such religious instructions given as we please. This we regard as a most interesting and important fact in regard to this strange but interesting people.

Besides the schools in the city, schools have also been maintained, more or less of the time during the year, in six different out-stations of the mission, viz.: in Nebk, Deir Atiyeh, Ma'ara, Bludan, Rasheya and Ain-esh-Sha'rah. The teachers in these schools are intelligent Protestants, and all, except one of them, tried and exemplary members of our church, qualified to instruct, not only the children in the school, but also the people about them, in the main truths of the Gospel, and in some measure also qualified to conduct religious services on the Sabbath. Owing to the weakness of the mission force, no occasional visits can be made by the missionaries to these and other villages of our field, though constant employment might be found in them for three or four other missionaries.

Between forty and fifty miles north of Damascus, i.e., two day's journey, according to the mode and rate of traveling in that country, are four large and beautiful villages or towns, having in the aggregate a population of about 25,000 souls. These are Yabrud, Nebk, Deir Atiyeh and Kara. They are among the most beautiful towns in all Syria, and
are inhabited by a noble race of people, both intellectually and physically, needing only the Gospel of Christ and the grace of God to elevate them in a short time to a level with any other people in the world.

In each of the villages of Nebk and Deir Atiyeh, there is not only a school as already stated, but also a number of families connected with us, in which are about a dozen tried, steadfast and devoted members of our church. The village of Yabrud was occupied several years ago as a station; one of the missionaries taking up his residence there. A good work was commenced; a flourishing school was maintained for several months and the prospects were most encouraging. But during the insurrection and disturbances of 1866, the place had to be abandoned, and in consequence of the weakness of the mission force since that time, it has been found impossible to reoccupy it as a mission station. Owing to the great influence of the Catholic bishop of the place, and his bitter opposition to our work, it has been found impossible also to maintain a school in it without the presence of a missionary. It is however visited as often as possible, and there are in it a good many people partially enlightened in the knowledge of the truth. The thorough cultivation of this northern district of our field would give employment to two missionaries.

About four hours north of Damascus and on the road to the villages just mentioned, is the small village of Ma'ara. In it are several families of professed Protestants. They have not been very long under our instruction, and there has as yet been little visible fruit of our labours among them. Yet the opening there is perhaps as encouraging as it was in any of the other places at first, and we doubt not we shall reap in due time if we labor not. A school has been maintained there for a time.

About thirty miles southwest of Damascus, on the slopes of Hermon, on opposite sides of it, are the villages of Rasheiya and Ain-esh-Sha'rāh, in each of which are about a dozen Protestant families and a flourishing school. The work in these places was commenced only about four years ago. Rasheiya is a village of considerable size and the most important in its district. The brethren there have, from the first, suffered almost continual and bitter persecution, from which we have as yet been unable to procure for them any permanent relief. They have been stoned and beaten, and imprisoned again and again, and have been annoyed in every possible way in order to force them back into the corrupt church from which they came out. Yet, while some have yielded to the fury of the storm and have turned back, the most of them have remained steadfast in their adherence to the truth. Around Rasheiya and Ain-esh-Sha'rāh are a number of other villages, in some of which there are inviting openings for the preaching of the Gospel. This district of our field would afford ample employment at once to at least one missionary.

It is greatly to be regretted that our force is not sufficient to enable us to perform, in these out-stations, the labour that is so much needed and so earnestly asked for, and which there is every reason to believe would be blessed for great good.

The book depot in this city has been kept open during the year for the sale of the Scriptures and other good books, and for religious reading and conversation. A native colporteur, supported by the British and Foreign Bible Society, has also been employed in going about from place to place, offering the Scriptures for sale to the people, and reading to them and conversing with them as he has had opportunity. In these ways many books have been sold and much good seed sown.

We rejoice to say that we have been enabled also to do something during the year in the district of the Hauran, the ancient Bashan of Scripture, which lies to the south of Damascus and east of the Jordan. This district is the granary of Syria. Though far less populous than it once was, yet scattered over its mountains and throughout its broad plains are still to be found numerous towns and villages of various sizes. The state of the country is, however, so unsettled and its roads so unsafe, that it is impossible to travel through it unless in large caravans or accompanied by a strong armed guard. It is hardly necessary to say that missionary operations could not well be carried on in this way. It has often been a question with the missionaries how to reach these people. The name of Khalil Azzam will be remembered by most of the friends of the mission. His village is away in the centre of the Hauran, three days' journey from Damascus. Several years ago a Bible found its way to the village and fell into his hands. From it he obtained a knowledge of the doctrines of the Gospel. He visited the missionaries, and through them gained more light. He then began to proclaim the glorious truths he had learned to his neighbors and friends, and has continued to do so ever since in the face of much opposition and persecution from the priests. Of late he has been employed by the mission for a part of his time, as a colporteur in his own and the neighboring villages, and thus through him the Gospel story is being told, and the Bible placed in the hands of the people in that dark portion of our field.

JOHN CRAWFORD.
III.—India.

Sealkote, about 1400 miles north-west of Calcutta and 70 miles from Lahore. Population about 20,000, with a surrounding district of 640,000. Mission began in 1855. Missionary labourers, Rev. Samuel Martin and wife, Rev. G. W. Scott and wife, Mr. J. W. Gordon and wife, Miss Elizabeth G. Gordon, two native helpers and two colporteurs.

In this country, Rev. Andrew Gordon and family, Rev. E. H. Stevenson and family.

Gujranwala, about 30 miles from Sealkote. Population about 18,000, with a surrounding district like Sealkote. Mission began in 1863. Missionary labourers, Rev. Jas. S. Barr and wife and Rev. E. P. Swift and wife, three native helpers and two colporteurs.

Summer Residence.—Dharmsala, 130 miles east of Sealkote, on the Himalaya Mountains, about 6,000 or 7,000 feet above the sea.

The Board regret that the information from this mission has not been as frequent and complete during the course of the year as is desired. Since, however, this Report was written, the Annual Statements from it to the Assembly and the Board have come to hand, and they will be found of a most interesting character.

The Rev. Samuel Martin and wife sailed for this mission in October last, and it is believed have er this time reached their field and entered upon the preparation for their work.

In all the stations public worship has been regularly conducted, and the sacraments have been administered. Encouraging accessions have been made to the membership of the mission church, both in Sealkote and Gujranwala, and the schools have been regularly and usefully kept open. The Industrial School has steadily advanced in its course, and promises ere long to be a self-sustaining and most useful adjunct of the mission. It is under the management of Mr. James W. Gordon. The Board are happy to mention, that in numerous instances during the past year the friends of missions have contributed, as in some measure previously, through the Rev. Andrew Gordon, in this country, for this important work. It is a grief, however, to the Board to have to say that, from the state of the funds, no part of the $5,000 appropriated by the last Assembly has been sent to this mission for the erection of the mission buildings that are so much needed.

In the Annual Report for this station the Mission say:

Dear Fathers and Brethren: In placing before you this annual report of our Mission for the year 1866, it is proper we should first acknowledge the loving-kindness and tender care of our Heavenly Father, and all his goodness to us during the year just passed. We have experienced his fatherly correction in having serious cases of sickness among our little band, but thanks be to Him, the lives of all have been preserved. There has not been a death in our little community during the year. It has been a year of mercies and a year of blessings.

As we now turn to call up in review and place before you its history, are we asking too much, fathers and brethren, when we ask you, fresh from the fields God has given you to influence, when it is your privilege to meet together and enjoy sweet fellowship with one another, to remember your lone brethren, toiling amid India's perishing millions, and above all things, to give praise and thanks to Zion's Almighty King for the souls He has brought to a knowledge of the truth? Oh! may He influence your minds and hearts to devise liberal things for His work in your India Mission!

The beginning of the year found all of your labourers at their several stations and busily engaged in their work. All were in good health. Early in January we received letters from the Board, giving us the glad news that Mr. James W. Gordon, wife, and
Miss E. G. Gordon had sailed to join our mission. In view of this it was thought best for the member of the mission who had been transferred from Gujranwala to return there as soon as possible after the arrival of those expected.

Mr. Gordon and family, and Miss Gordon arrived early in March, and entered at once upon the respective duties for which they had been sent. Mr. Barr shortly after joined Brother Swift at Gujranwala. Mrs. Barr and the orphan boys remained at Sealkote, as there were no accommodations for them at Gujranwala.

We were much disappointed when we learned that none of the ministerial brethren appointed last year would come, and looked anxiously to the Assembly of 1866. Our sincere thanks are given to that Assembly for the liberal things devised for us. Had those appointed responded in the same spirit, it would not now be necessary for us to call your attention to the very inadequate force of this mission. But one brother and his wife of all those appointed are on their way to join us.

The Board of Foreign Missions will doubtless inform you why this was. It but remains for us to urge this Assembly to make appointments of only such persons as are willing to come. It is far better for us, in our isolation and weakness, not to have hopes raised by the appointment of persons by the Assembly, only to be dashed to the ground by their refusal to come. Such disappointment is hard to bear. For that brother and sister coming to us, we cherish the warmest feelings, and our united prayer is that it may soon be our privilege to give them our heartfelt welcomes to the field of their labour. May He who ruleth the winds and waves protect and guard them on their perilous way.

SEALKOTE STATION.

MISSIONARIES.

American, James W. Gordon and Wife.
Native, Rev. G. W. Scott and Wife.
Female Teacher and Superintendent of Girls' Orphanage, Miss E. G. Gordon.

NATIVE ASSISTANTS.

Scrip. Reader, 2d Grade, John Clement.
" " Wm. Bruce.
" Prob'r, John.
" " Charles.
Colporteur, Buju Lal.
Teacher City School, Baboo Nobin C. Ghose.

Missionaries.

The Rev. G. W. Scott has laboured in connection with this station during the whole year. His family suffered much from sickness during the hot months, but all were mercifully preserved. Mr. Gordon and wife have laboured earnestly since their arrival, doing all that they were able to do without the language, and have made good progress in its acquirement. Miss Gordon found it necessary to go to Dharmsala during the hot months, but with this exception has been actively engaged in her work. Mr. and Mrs. Barr assisted in the duties of the station during the first months of the year, and Mr. Barr spent part of the hot season there.

Assistants.

All of the native assistants have been kept actively employed during the year; in the district when the weather permitted, and in the city during the hot months.

Native Congregation.

Brother Scott was appointed by Presbytery to the charge of the native congregation for the year. Preaching has been kept up regularly during the year, once in the Church in the city, and once on the compound. Prayer meetings have been held regularly during the week. The audiences in the city have been unusually large and attentive. The service on the compound is more especially intended for the Christians.

It gives us pleasure to report that there has not been a single case of discipline during the year, and brother G. reports an unusual degree of harmony and love among the members. They have not been unmindful of their obligation to give liberally to the support of the Gospel in their midst. Their contribution amounted to Rupees 140—Anas 1. A very liberal sum when we consider their ability. Eight persons have been baptized during the year—two orphan boys, two orphan girls and four men, who had been with us some time as inquirers, two of the latter were Mengs. Four members were received on certificate, and one boy who had been baptized in infancy was received on examination. Five infants have been baptized. There have been no dismissions, except such as came with Mr. B. to Gujranwala.
**Preaching.**

In Bazaar. Preaching has been regularly kept up in the city Bazaar during most part of the year, sometimes with a good degree of interest, and again in the midst of much opposition. We know of no direct results from it. “The bread has been cast upon the waters.”

Itinerant.

During the early months of the year while it was yet cool enough, Brother Scott was out in the district preaching. He visited many villages, often meeting with the kindest reception and finding many willing to hear him, again meeting with much opposition, especially in Mahomedan villages. He visited, in the course of his tour, Zafferwall and Pusroor, important places in the eastern part of the district. The former of these places is near the Meng villages, of which people and the movement among them we will give a fuller account below. The latter place was the home of the Brahmin Fakir Buju Lal, who was baptized during the year, and whose conversion created much interest in the place. Brother S. spent many interesting days in the city and its surrounding villages. The approaching hot weather and departure of Mr. E. for Gujranwala confined Brother S. much more to the station. But during the cold months of the latter part of the year he has again been out, though for the most part among villages near Sealkote, usually coming in on Saturday and preaching on Sabbath to the congregation.

Preaching at Fairs or Melas.

The most noted Fair in the neighborhood occurs in the hottest part of the year, and this is a place where no accommodation or shelter can be found. We usually send a tent, but this is a very poor shelter during the hot winds. This year we were able to send only the native assistants. The Fair lasts about one month. They spent about that time at it preaching and distributing books to the changing multitude. Two inquirers and one orphan boy returned with them to the station, and many heard the Gospel, and the Word of Life was widely distributed.

Several other Fairs have been attended, but as their attendance is local they do not have the same influence in spreading the knowledge of the truth.

The Mengs.

These are a race of people scattered among the villages in Zafferwall Tahsil, in the eastern part of Sealkote District. They are weavers by caste, and, when necessity compels them, day labourers for the farmers. A few years ago there was an extraordinary interest among them, and a great anxiety to hear of Christ. But owing to the persecution of the farmers, and their threatening to turn them out of their villages, they became afraid to be seen coming to the missionaries when any of them visited that part of the district.

We were discouraged after several special attempts to acquire their confidence. Now we know we had no reason for our discouragement, as the following will show:

One hot day in July one of our native assistants brought three respectable looking men into the room where the writer of this was sitting. After all were seated, he introduced them as a deputation from the Mengs. A long and most interesting conversation followed, in which they freely stated their circumstances, their wishes and their wants. One of their head men, who had formerly been an attentive and marked hearer of the word, had died, professing his faith in Christ and his assurance of happiness through Him, and on his death bed had urged his friends and relatives to seek Jesus. From that time they had been reading books, more especially portions of the Scriptures, secretly, and endeavouring, as far as they could in their unenlightened way, to seek Christ without its being known or damaging their worldly interests among the Mahomedan farmers. But the truth of our Saviour’s words was fulfilled in them. They did not succeed in serving God and mammon. Now fifteen families of them were ready to come out from their villages and put themselves under the instruction of the missionaries. They felt that they were yet very ignorant, and not fit subjects for baptism. They wished to learn, and especially that we would have a school and instruct their children. They would submit to our direction in all things. But they did not wish to leave that part of the district, it was their home, and they knew many others would join them when they saw how they had succeeded. They would work at their trade and farm, and did not ask us to do anything for them after they were settled, but instruct them. Now they wished us to help them to secure a piece of land and get them settled on it. Then they would be free from persecution and independent. After some further conversation they were dismissed with a promise that we would see what could be done and communicate with them in ten days. Brother Scott being at Gujranwala that week, a letter was sent detailing the circumstanc-
ces, and as he and Brother Swift were well acquainted with these people, they were asked to consult together as to what should be done. All the members of the mission thought, if it were possible to obtain land from Government and without cost to the mission, and settle them on it, it should be done.

Past experience had taught those of our members who had been acquainted with their circumstances, that their being dependent on the villages, was the chief hindrance to free access to them.

Major Mercer, Deputy Commissioner of Sialkote District was at once consulted. He entered warmly into the matter. Maps of the district were examined, and the discouraging discovery made that no amount of waste land suitable for our purpose was available. Major Mercer directed us to go to the place and look around among the villages, perhaps land attached to some village might be obtained through his assistance. Brother S. visited the place, saw the Mengs according to promise, brought a very encouraging report of their feelings, but land even with their local knowledge could not be found. So we were led to adopt the following course for the present:

Select the most central spot available where we could secure a few acres of land. Build a small house for a native assistant, and a large room for preaching purposes, and for a shelter for missionaries when they visited the place. Send our best native assistant there; go as often and stay as long as we possibly could ourselves, and prayerfully await the result. This is all we could do under the circumstances, and indeed this much must be on our own responsibility, for if means could not be spared from the mission funds we must spare it from our daily bread.

As soon as the heat was so far spent as to justify it, brother S. commenced operations, and at our annual meeting, January 1st, was able to report that he was about purchasing a piece of land. Several families were making arrangements to settle on it. Two Mengs had been baptized, and he was so far encouraged that he wished the mission to give him authority to put up the necessary buildings.

The mission took the following action:

Whereas, there is now an extraordinary movement going on among the Mengs near Zafferwall, and many of them are inquiring the way of salvation; and

Whereas, we feel we would be recreant to our duty if we did not respond to it; and

Whereas, a branch station is immediately needed, and should be established there to enable us to meet this pressing call: therefore

Resolved, That Rev. G. W. Scott be authorized to use all the available funds, and if none are available to borrow the amounts necessary, not exceeding Rupees 1000, and immediately proceed to establish a branch station in that place.

Resolved, That the Board be hereby asked to send the amount necessary, soon as possible.

From this you will see we are doing and expect to do all we can to meet this interesting movement. It now remains for the Board and Assembly to give the means and their approval of the work, and encouragement to go on. We ask for this work Rupees 1000.

Schools.

City School.—At the beginning of the year it was found impossible for any of the missionaries to spend three or four hours in this school. We thought it best to employ a head teacher. This we did at a salary of Rupees 100 per month. This made it necessary to reduce the number of the monitors. The best were kept; others dismissed. With this reduction of monitors the increased expense was about Rupees 80. So long as the teacher was looked after and felt the force of superior authority, he worked well, the school flourished, and at every monthly examination showed a marked improvement in progress. The number of boys during the month of February was 140. The removal of one of our number to Gujranwala during the month of March, and the impossibility of removing the orphan boys, threw additional duties on the remaining members of the station. Add to which, the want of knowledge of the language by Mr. Gordon, and his own particular charge, made it impossible for him to render such assistance as he desired. What he could do he did in the Orphan Boys' School. Brother Scott had enough of other work. He could not do more. The school had to be left principally in the hands of the head teacher. He was a native of Bengal, a Christian; had a good education, and we hoped the school would not suffer much on account of the necessity on us of leaving so much in his hands. It did not flourish as it had done. In a few months the number and daily attendance had fallen off to about 80. Towards the end of the year it rose again, and the year closed with it in a favorable state. The teacher has been permitted to take service in Moottan.

We give you these plain facts in regard to this school that you may see how this branch of the work suffers, owing to our weak force. When we are unable to do all the work, we
feel that preaching and instructing those entirely under our care, such as orphans, &c., should be attended to rather than a school composed of heathen. Not but we feel this work to be important. It is important. We cannot bear the whole burden. Who is to blame that we are so weak in numbers? Let the Church answer.

Industrial School.

Till the arrival of Mr. James W. Gordon, March 8th, this school was in charge of Brother Scott. It required him to devote a good part of his time and attention to it, and it was a great relief to him to be relieved of its charge. He managed it most successfully and gave over its charge to Mr. Gordon, with every prospect of its success. A few days after his arrival Mr. Gordon took charge, and notwithstanding the many disadvantages he has had to labor under, with a strange people, a strange language, and in a work with which he had no practical acquaintance, he has succeeded well. He has learned the work, made good progress in the language, and is rapidly learning to understand the people with whom he has to deal.

We rejoice that he has come to us, and feel that if he is spared he has every prospect of doing a good work.

He furnishes the following outline of his labours:

"The work has gone on regularly since I took charge of the school. The average force has been 10 men. 18 men have been employed during the past year, of whom nine were Christians, eight inquirers and one a pretending inquirer."

"There is in general a willingness to work and a desire to study during the time allotted for that purpose." "The men are often seen with their books in their hands, or ready by to be taken up at any leisure moment. Four women have been employed part of the time, and exhibit a disposition to earn something towards supporting their families."

"The demand for the articles manufactured, viz: family soap, saddle soap, spirits of turpentine, rosin, mould-candles and purified lamp-oil, is steadily increasing. The sales during the year have been to the amount of Rupees 6000 nearly. This has been a wonderful increase from the first sale of a few Rupees. Rupees 500 have been sold within a month, and there is a constantly increasing demand. Now that the Institution is fast emerging from the difficulties by which it was surrounded, the want of apparatus, funds, &c., we hope it may still find friends to help it till it stands on a good foundation, and may, by the blessing of God in answer to the prayers of Christian people, be able to give support to all who may come to seek religious instruction in the mission. As it has grown from an acorn to a comparatively strong oak in the first seven years, we cannot say what strength it may attain in the next seven, nor how much good may result from it."

Orphan Girls' School.

Mr. Scott continued faithfully to care for the orphan girls till the arrival of Miss Gordon. She then took charge and continued her care till it was found necessary for her to go to Dharmshala. She remained there during the hot months and returned in October, much invigorated, and has been able to labour actively till the end of the year. During her necessary absence the girls were well looked after by Mrs. Gordon and Scott. The former teaching, a work for which she is well qualified, and the latter taking a general supervision of conduct and other matters which Mrs. Gordon's want of the language prevented her from undertaking. They have thus been well cared for, and faithfully instructed during the year.

We were much pained at having to restore three of the Gipsy children to their parents. Their parents were released from prison, owing to some mistake of the committing officer, and they made application to Government for their children. The case came up in 1865, before A. Brandreth, Esq., Deputy Commissioner of Gujranwala District, and he took strong ground against giving them up, and represented to the Judicial Commissioner the careful training they were getting from the missionaries, and the certainty of their parents training them up to be thieves. Major Mercer, Deputy Commissioner of Sealkote District, also took strong ground in favour of the children. Through the influence of these two Christian officers, the Judicial Commissioner ordered that unless their parents gave security for their right training, they should be left with the missionaries. "He left the kind of security they should give to the Deputy Commissioner of Gujranwala." He would not accept any security they could give. And we were assured we should have no further anxiety about them, as they were perfectly safe. For this reason we did not mention the matter in our report last year.

Early in this year Mr. Brandreth took leave, and we had, in consequence a new Deputy Commissioner. One of his first acts was to take a mere bond from the parents, and the first we knew of the circumstance was a note from Major Mercer of Sealkote, saying,
he had received an order from the Deputy Commissioner of Gujranwala to send down six of the Gipsy children to be made over to their parents, and that he had refused to execute the order, until he heard from the Judicial Commissioner. He was eventually compelled to execute it. Acting under his instruction, we wrote to the Judicial Commissioner, and in answer, he assured us, that were it in his power to save the children he would do it, but the course of the Deputy Commissioner at Gujranwala cut him off from all interference in the matter. Yet to save, if possible, the larger ones, he had ordered the Deputy Commissioner of Gujranwala to give up none of the children who could possibly be considered of age, to decide and pay the mission the whole cost of keeping and instructing those given up. This saved two out of the six, and three girls and one boy had to be given up. The writer will not forget, while life remains, the last scene in court, when these four poor children rushed to and clung to him, screaming for protection against the police who were endeavouring to lead them to their parents.

And we would draw the veil over the fate of those poor girls. We did what we could and have the thanks of the Christian community for our efforts. What is thought of the English officer who was instrumental in giving them up we leave you to imagine. Our grateful thanks are due to those Christian officers who laboured with us. We can only commit these poor children to Him who "took little children up in His arms, put His hands upon them and blessed them." The cost of their keeping has been fully paid by Government.

This reduced the number of girls from 20 to 17; none have been added during the year; all have good health. Miss Gordon furnishes the following particulars:

Two have been baptized during the year, viz: Sherkalan, named Mary Ann, on 13th of April, and Ka-boo-tree who was named Ruth, from the fact that she had of her own accord left her people and came to the Mission, under circumstances related in our report of last year. She was baptized in December. Six have expressed a desire to be baptized, and are now being particularly instructed as to their duty and its obligations.

They have all made progress in their studies, and a few of them promise to be scholars. Their studies have been, reading in vernacular and English, arithmetic, writing and the Assembly's Shorter Catechism.

Nearly all of them can read intelligibly in the Urdu Testament. They are daily exercised in a portion of the sacred Scriptures. They have commenced learning the Persian Urdu character so as to be able to read their language in both Roman and Persian characters. Miss Gordon concludes her statements to the Mission with an earnest appeal for assistance in her department. We have all been disappointed, but she most of all. And most earnestly do we urge this matter on the attention of the Board and Church. Do not fail to send a female teacher this year. If it is not done the result will be that Miss Gordon's strength will fail, and she will be compelled to leave the work she loves so well.

GUJRANWALA STATION.

MISSIONARIES.
Rev. James S. Barr and Wife.
Rev. E. P. Swift and Wife.
Miss Emily Swift, Teacher of Native Christian Women.

NATIVE ASSISTANTS.
Scrip. Reader, 1st Grade, Joseph.
" Radha Kishen.

Of the above all have been actively engaged in the work of the station during the entire year, except Mr. and Mrs. Barr. As already stated, Mr. Barr was at Sealkote till in March and again in the hot season, and was absent from both stations during the time necessary to take his family to Dharmasala and again to bring them down. Mrs. Barr did not join the station till October, when it was cool enough to live in tent. Add to this the fact that Mr. Barr while here was much engaged in collecting material and other preparations for building, and it will be seen that the real missionary work has fallen on Brother Swift and the native assistants. Brother Swift had some serious sickness in his family during the year. His son Willy was very ill, but after a time recovered. With this exception all have enjoyed excellent health.

Native Congregation.

Brother Swift has preached regularly in Hindustani to the congregation during the year, when not absent from the Station itinerating. He has also regularly kept up a meeting for instruction, and by questioning on the word preached, and catechising, and explaining passages of Scripture, endeavoured to lead the Christians to a more earnest study of God's Word. In addition to the Hindustani service, during the latter months of the year, we have had a service in English. This is more especially designed for the mem-
bers and other persons connected with the Civil Station. A number have attended with
some degree of regularity, and one or two quite regularly. So long as there is none but
ourselves to minister to the spiritual wants of these persons, we feel it our duty to do
what we can.

We have no cases of discipline to report. Our little community has been doing well
and we trust our Christians are growing in grace and knowledge. We have had no adult
baptisms. Many inquirers came and remained for a little time, and at first gave good
promise of their being in earnest, but they soon left us, and by their after conduct showed
that they had no desire to become Christians.

**Bazaar Preaching.**

The past year has been very favourable for this part of our work. The readjustment of
the land tax has been going on, and the people of the villages have necessarily been much
in the city, and thus an opportunity has been enjoyed of meeting with and preaching to
numbers from all parts of the District. It has been a good opportunity, and we have
devoted to improve it.

Crowds of people would gather around to hear and ask questions, and then give place
to others. Often the story of a “Son born, a Saviour given,” has been repeated many times
without moving from the spot, and we have been compelled to desist from sheer weari­
ess, when new comers would be clamouring to hear. Many times through the assistance
of the Native helpers, preaching would be going on in several places in the city at the
same time. But with so many to hear, we have yet no visible fruit to report. Oh! may
the Spirit of the living God breathe on these dry bones that they may live.

**District Preaching and Itinerating.**

In regard to this part of our work, Brother Swift furnishes the following statement: “In
February I commenced to go out in the district to preach, and continued out nearly two
months. I visited many villages and met with many who were anxious to hear the glad
tidings of the Gospel, but having heard, could not make up their minds to leave the world
and its charm.”

“Again, early in October, after the hot weather, I went out into the district and re­
mained out till the end of November. I had much to cheer me, and felt that it was good
to go about among the people and tell them of the Kingdom of Heaven, in imitation of
my Divine Master. Will not the church send us more help for those poor people?”

**Schools.**

Co—**mound School.** Near the beginning of the year, Emily Swift, Brother Swift’s
daughter, was appointed to instruct the Christian women and their children. She worked
faithfully about ten months. The women improved much. A few of the more advanced
who could read Roman were taught English; the others the Roman Urdu. The children
also did well.

**Orphan Boys’ School.**

The boys were at Sealkot during the greater part of the year. This was necessary
as we had no place for them here. They came here with Mrs. B. in October, and were in
tent during the remainder of the year. They are now occupying the part of their orphan­
age already furnished. In a few months they will be very comfortably fixed.

One boy was given up with the three girls; another was enticed away by his brother,
who would have been severely punished, if caught by the police, but we have no word of
his being caught with the boy yet. Two have been added during the year, leaving the
number 24, the same as reported last year. Two have been baptized, and one, baptized
in childhood, received on profession of his faith.

The past year has been characterized by a remarkable devotion to their studies, es­
pecially on the part of the older boys. This has been very gratifying, and has had a
marked influence on their progress. It has been impossible for their superintendent to
give that time and attention to their studies during the past year, which was desirable.

He takes great pleasure in acknowledging the assistance he has received from Mr. Gor­
don in their English studies, and from Brother Scott in vernacular. Brother Swift kindly
took charge of their studies during December. It is fit the church should know, that
sometimes the press of work is such, that the only time available to hear their lessons is
in the evening, after the pressing duties of the day were done. The higher classes have
had general history and English composition added to the list of studies reported last
year, and in these are making good progress. If from among these boys it is our Mas­
ter’s will that preachers of his Gospel be raised up, we will feel that our care and labour
has been rewarded.
Building.

In March we commenced preparations for building a house for Mr. B. and the boys' orphanage, and have been busily engaged since. As bricks could not be had, we had to prepare them ourselves. The wood for burning them had to be brought ten miles. At this writing the foundation of the missionaries' house is laid, and the orphans' building well on towards completion. The latter was built first, because funds were limited, and it was felt that the boys must have accommodations as soon as possible. They had been without any suitable place ever since they came into our hands. In fact, the mission never had any place for them. Last summer they occupied at Sealkote the same building with Mr. Barr. They will now have a good school room, which also can be used by the congregation for all religious services, and good rooms to live in.

The missionaries' house will not be proceeded with for some months. Wood is bought, and is now being prepared for it, and brick made, but it cannot be built at present. The reason is, that of the estimated cost of the buildings, six thousand Rupees, but three thousand have been received. The missionary will have to live in the boys' school room during the hot season, and tent during the cold, till the funds are in hand to justify our proceeding with the building.

Purchase of Land.

This has been done, and we now have a good compound of 25 acres, free from any of the regulations enforced in the Civil Station. These regulations in regard to us, were limited as to the number of Christian families we might have on our former compound, and no buildings to be put up without permission from the authorities. As to missionaries and their families living in the station, there was no difficulty, but rather a desire to have us there. As we were located before the sanction of the Civil Station laws, they could not enforce them on us, but we expressed our willingness to put up our new buildings on a site chosen by ourselves, if Government took all unnecessary land of the first compound at cost price, and conducted the purchase of the new compound. This was agreed to by the former Deputy Commissioner. The new Deputy Commissioner was rather slow, and we had to go to his immediate superior, the Commissioner.

We did not do this until we were compelled. Then we kindly and firmly told him what we would do, and though not compelled to do so, sent our statement through him to the Commissioner.

The Commissioner soon visited Gujranwala, and, after inquiry, directed the Deputy Commissioner to secure the land for the Missionaries. This was done, and now all is well.

CONCLUSION.

We had an illustration of the kind care of our Heavenly Father during the past year, which filled our hearts with gratitude. The Lahore Branch of the Agra and Masher Mahn Bank closed the very day after we had drawn out nearly all our funds, and this when we had not the least suspicion of its unsoundness.

But from indications of the financial crisis in England, our Treasurer thought it best only to sell each month the amount of bills necessary to meet our expenses, thus keeping as low a balance in the bank as possible. This bank was considered the soundest in India, and the losses and suffering caused by its suspension are very great. How great is the care of our Heavenly Father! The balance of 363 Rupees will be realized with interest, and the church will lose nothing.

In bidding you farewell for another year's conflict with heathenism, we again urge the necessities of this mission.

Do send us help. You see how our field is widening and how much is to be done. Oh! dear Fathers and Brethren, with India's millions stretching out their hands to us for help, we cannot cease to cry out to you, send us help and do it speedily!

By order of the mission.

COMMITTEE.

IV.—Egypt.


Fayoum, about 80 miles above Cairo, near the Nile. Mission began 1865. Missionary labourers, Rev. S. C. Ewing and wife, and Rev. Wm. Harvey and wife.

In this Country, Rev. S. C. Ewing and wife, and Rev. And. Watson and wife.


The Nile Valley.—Bible distribution on Nile Boat and by colportage.

The past year has been one of interest in this mission. Its field has steadily widened, and more and more manifestly the seed has seemed to take root.

In Alexandria the new mission premises have been occupied, and are found to be of great service. Permanency of place is now secured. The large mass of people specially sought are in convenient reach—and as might be expected, the attendance on the sanctuary services, and on the schools, has been large and apparently interesting. At each communion additions have been made to the church. The book depot has been instrumental in scattering abroad many copies of the word of God. In this station Rev. Andrew Watson has had the principal charge, but the Board have great pain in informing the Assembly that under a long-continued and severe affection of the eyes, he has been compelled by the advice of his physicians, and also of the mission, to return to this country in the hope of being restored. His removal from this cause has been a great trial to himself, to the mission, and to the Board.

In Cairo the work has been continued in all its different departments. Rev. Dr. Barnett is the virtual pastor of the native church, and encouraging accessions have been made at the different communions. The schools, both boys' and girls', in the Mission House, and the girls' school in Hart-Sakheen, and in the Coptic quarter, have had their usual course, with a good corps of native teachers and assistants. The press, contributed to the mission by the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, and under the efficient care of Mr. David Strang, has done much to disseminate truth and light. The book depot has been constantly open for the spread of Bibles and religious books, and has often been the place of most useful discussions and statements of gospel truth.

In the Fayoum, in the valley of the Nile, a good work has been constantly carried on during the year by the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Harvey and Rev. S. C. Ewing. The word has happily taken effect in many cases. A church has been partially organized of several persons who gave good evidence of having passed from death unto life, and the ordinance of the Lord's Supper has been dispensed. Many more are inquiring.

In Osioot, as the Rev. Mr. Hogg had been compelled to leave for a season, Rev. Dr. Barnett, and subsequently Rev. Mr. Currie, continued to prosecute the work. Gratifying results have followed. Several persons have declared their faith in Christ, and after suitable instructions, have publicly professed his name and sat down at his table. The Rev. Mr. Hogg having returned to Egypt from Scotland and England, where his health was greatly improved, and where he also did much service to our missionary cause by laying it before the Christian people there, he has been placed in Osioot again, and is devoting himself specially under the direction of the Presbytery to the training of theological students. Thirteen very promising men are thus on their way to the gospel ministry.
the vicinity of Osioot there are several villages where the gospel is diligently made known by colporteurs and readers sent out by the mission. For the Theological school in Osioot Mr. Hogg raised in Great Britain about £2,500 in gold.

At Ghous, a large town much further up the Nile, a remarkable work has been carried on during the year, resulting in the organization of a church with twenty-five members at the first communion, and several others anxiously inquiring. The newly organized church have called for their pastor a native teacher who had long enjoyed the highest training of the Coptic Church, and having been for several years past under the Theological instruction of the Presbytery, was ordained a few months since to the ministry, and having accepted the call will shortly be settled in this place, the first evangelical native pastor in Egypt in modern times.

The accounts of our mission in Egypt are every way encouraging. In this report we have mentioned only the prominent places. At Mansoura and numerous other points the field is white for the harvest, and it is believed with continued labour and the divine blessing multitudes of immortal souls may be early gathered in.

The Board are constrained to mention that this mission has at this time two pressing wants. First.—A Christian physician, who, with a spirit of earnest sympathy with the missionary work, will exercise his profession at the stations up the Nile. In these important towns, and far from any physician, the missionaries and their families are painfully exposed. Already death has made sad havoc in one of our missionary homes, in all probability because there was no physician there,—and it is now so earnestly pressed upon us to send one, it is hoped the Assembly will promptly attend to it. The Second want is two devoted females to go out as teachers of their long-ignorant, and consequently, sadly debased sex in this dark land. Most earnestly does the mission, urged on by the necessities of the case, ask for such to be sent, and the Assembly, it is hoped, will at once make appointments for this, if the means of the church are in any sense believed to justify it.

The Annual Report of this mission says:

Alexandria.

The year 1866 has, to the Alexandria mission, its tale of sorrow and of joy. At the beginning of the year the mission band was composed of Rev. E. Currie and wife, and Rev. A. Watson and wife. About the middle of January Mr. W. and wife left Alexandria for a tour on the Nile for the purpose of disseminating religious truth, by means of books and conversations. During their absence of two months Mrs. Currie was delivered of a daughter, and after suffering much during a short period, died on the 9th of March much lamented as she was dearly loved. She had been in the country scarcely a year, and yet she had won the esteem and affection of all the mission band in Egypt, and gave promise of great usefulness. But the Lord in His mysterious Providence took her to Himself, and we doubt not that she is now wearing a crown of glory in the New Jerusalem. For her bereaved husband and motherless babe we ask the kind care of our Heavenly Father. The babe was taken to America in charge of Mrs. Ewing and Mrs. Hogg. Mr. Currie remained in Alexandria until September, engaged in acquiring the language, and taking charge of the Boys' School and giving efficient aid in other matters pertaining to the mission.

In other respects the health of the missionaries has been as usual, with the exception that Mr. Watson has been for a considerable time afflicted with his eyes. However, there is cause of thanksgiving that the Lord has given encouragement to go forward in the great work. Two Sabbath services have been held in Arabic, and the attendance has been larger than during 1865; six new members have been admitted; one has been suspended for de-
nying the faith; a weekly meeting for prayer and the reading of the scriptures has been well attended; and the sum of forty dollars has been contributed by the congregation for religious purposes. A Turkish service has been opened for Armenians and Turks, conducted by Sarkees, at which from three to fourteen have attended.

The Boys' School has been well attended during the year. One hundred and thirty have been enrolled, of whom 51 were Syrian Christians, 36 Moslems, 21 Copts, 13 Jews, and 9 Armenians. The daily attendance was 60. A monthly tuition of a dollar is required from those who study English, and half a dollar from those who study Arabic. Some who are poor are admitted free. The Girls' School decreased in numbers till we feared it would cease to exist. The cause of this was the inefficiency of the teacher. On this account the services of Miss Gregory, a Syrian, educated by the American missionaries in Syria, were secured, and since she entered the school it has prospered beyond our fondest expectations. Miss McKown, who took the care of the school during Miss G's absence in England on account of her health, says she never knew girls in America take a deeper interest in their studies and make better progress. The number of girls enrolled since April 9th—the time Miss Gregory took the school—has been 180, of whom 85 were Jewesses, 80 children of Christian sects, and 15 Moslems—daily attendance 70.

The Book Depot accounts show a decrease in the value of books sold, but an increase in the number of volumes. The statistics are as follows:—4815 vols. received into the shop; 5011 sent to Cairo and Mansoura; 2019 sold in the shop; value of sales $420.00. The cause of the sales is to be accounted for, not as showing less desire for religious truth, but by the want of money, and the removal of the shop from the place it occupied for many years. This was done because the owner wished to tear it down and build anew. Besides it was thought that to remove the Books to the mission house would save the rent and bring the shop more under the eye of the missionary.

Cairo.

We desire to record the tender mercies of our Heavenly Father, which have abounded toward us and our families during the past year. Many have been the evidences of His covenant love and care. No evil has befallen us, nor plague come nigh our dwellings. The only case of serious and protracted illness was that of Mrs. Ewing at the commencement of the year, whose health had become so impaired by this enervating climate, that it was found necessary for her to return to her native land. The change proved beneficial, and we are thankful to know that she is now enjoying improved health. After her departure, in the month of March, her husband, the Rev. Samuel C. Ewing, left this station, where he had been labouring most of the time since his arrival in the country, and went to the Fayoum, where he continues to labour until the present. His place was filled by Dr. Burnett, who, according to appointment of Presbytery, came to this station and began his labours in the month of August. In the month of March the Rev. B. F. Pinkerton removed from the mission house to the Southern Division of the city, to a quarter called Hart es Sakeen where he continues to reside at present. Mr. David Strang and family arrived in April and took up their residence in the mission premises. These are all the changes that have taken place in our Missionary staff during the year.

Preaching of the Word.—The word has been preached regularly every Sabbath, twice in Arabic and once in Turkish. The attendance has been very good throughout the entire year, though we cannot say that there has been much of an increase on the attendance of last year. Ten persons have connected with the Church, and been admitted to the sealing ordinances, all of whom are walking according to the gospel, except two, who, we are sorry to say, abandoned their profession soon after they made it.

The Armenian (or Turkish) congregation is now supplied by a pastor of their own nation. He is a young man by the name of Stephanas, and was sent to us, at our request, by the American missionaries of Constantinople. He was educated and trained by them for the Ministry, seems to be well qualified for his work, and will, with the Divine blessing, succeed well in his present position.

Schools.—The Boys' School has been well attended—ninety-five being the daily average. One hundred and fifty names have sometimes been enrolled. About thirty Moslems have been in attendance and have studied the lessons in the Gospel along with others. The remainder were principally Copts. Our teachers have been faithful and efficient in their different departments. According to our custom, special attention has been given to religious instruction, and the good seed thus sown from day to day will, we trust, yet bring forth fruit, in some thirty, in some sixty, and in some an hundred fold.

The Girls' Schools have been well attended during the year. The one in the northern part of the city, taught by Miss Dales (now Mrs. Lansing) has had an average attendance of about forty. The other, located in Hart es Sakeen, taught by Miss Hart has had an average attendance of forty-five. More than one hundred have been enrolled during the year.
in both schools, all of whom have received more or less of good instruction, and will make better wives and mothers for their having been connected with our schools. We continually see evidence that the efforts of the female members of our mission to benefit their sex in this land, are not in vain. Nor are their labours confined to the schools. They hold meetings for the women in which they teach them to read and understand the Holy Scriptures, pray with them, and urge them to come to Christ to receive rest for their truly heavy-laden souls; and the numbers usually present, the earnest attention given to these gracious and kindly spoken messages, together with the kind reception the female missionary always meets with in their houses, clearly show that God is owning this work of faith and labour of love.

Boarding School for Girls.—Those who have this last department in charge have long experienced difficulty in securing competent helpers among the native females. The parents usually remove their girls from school at an early age to betroth and marry them, and as this custom of early marriage is universal, nothing can induce them to allow their daughters to remain until they have received a good education and become able to assist the female missionary in her arduous work. A boarding school is the only remedy for this great difficulty. Accordingly Presbytery last winter established such a school in the mission premises of this station, and put it under the superintendence of Miss S. B. Dales. It has been begun under favourable auspices, and there are now in it seven girls, who, with others whom we may obtain, will remain under our control until trained and matured for teachers, and what is equally important, for wives for the young men, who are raised up for native helpers. We know from sad experience that much of the usefulness of our young men is destroyed by their marrying uneducated irreligious wives. It was to assist in this great work of female education that at our last meeting of Presbytery additional female missionaries were asked from the Church at home. When shall our weak and worn-down female labourers at this station receive the needed reinforcement?

Bible Meetings for Men.—Two meetings for reading the Scriptures have been kept up, with few interruptions, during the year—one in the northern, and the other in the southern part of the city. This is now the second year for the one in the northern division. It has been carried on by some of our members, and much light has been disseminated among persons who have not yet come under the influence of the missionaries. The other one, in Hac se Saken, (southern part of the city,) has for some time met every night in the house of Mr. Pinkerton, and is conducted by him, with the aid of one of our elders, a man of knowledge and piety, who lives in that quarter. The attendance varies from five to ten, but not always the same individuals. More than thirty have come, some for a few evenings, and others for weeks. The time is generally well occupied in reading the Scriptures, remarks on their meaning, and prayer.

The Book Shop is another source of light, and during the year has been in a flourishing condition. We removed it from the Mouska, which is the principal thoroughfare of the city, to our mission premises. We did this on the score of economy, as we could not keep it in its former place without increasing the already high rent. We now support it on a fraction of the former expense, and find that it is doing very well.

Osyut and Beni Alaij Stations.

The following Report is written by Dr. Barnett:

According to the appointment of Presbytery, after preparatory arrangements together with Mr. and Mrs. Harvey, accompanied by Dr. Lansing, bound for the Fayoum, and Mr. and Mrs. Watson, bound up the Nile, and along with several native assistants, Miss McKown, myself and wife all on board the Ibis left Bulak, the port of Cairo, for Osyut after sunset on the 17th January 1866. We had a protracted voyage, and did not arrive at the port of Osyut until the 3d of February late in the evening.

Since the departure of Mr. Hogg and family about the first of the previous December, the operations of the mission had been conducted by the native assistants, Abdullah Wesa in Osyut, and Beshai in Beni Alaij.

On our arrival at Osyut, Miss McKown’s school for girls, which had been suspended since her departure with Mr. Hogg and family, was resumed, with an attendance ranging from five to fifteen girls having some twenty names on the roll.

In the boy’s school we found twenty scholars. These during our stay increased in num
ber, and then diminished, according to the severity of the threats and persecution carried on by the Primates of the Coptic Church against the scholars; or, as the boys were needed by their parents to help them in harvesting their crops. A goodly number of our scholars are from neighbouring villages. Much time was spent in the school, five days in each week, in reading the Scriptures, exposition, and prayer, and in teaching English to a few choice boys.

The services on Sabbath, which had been suspended, were resumed and regularly maintained till our departure, the audiences ranging from five to thirty persons.

In Beni Alaij, Beshai has maintained a boys' school, having from nineteen to twenty-nine scholars in very regular attendance. In the latter part of June he also opened a school for girls, which he has kept up with nineteen scholars. Besides teaching and overseeing both schools, he preaches every Sabbath to smaller or larger audiences. He reports that many are on the verge of professing Protestantism; and certainly, great changes are going on, when they send their children, even in such numbers, to the school and themselves attend his Sabbath services.

Though only appointed for the first three months of the year, we soon clearly saw it to be our duty to protract our stay, and accordingly remained till July the 16th when we left for Cairo, where we arrived on the 23d of July.

Since we left Osyut the work has been again under the care of Abdullah Wesa and Beshai. The station has been visited twice by Dr. Lansing and Mr. Currie, during their late trip up the Nile, and on their return. On the latter occasion the first communion in the station was held on Sabbath, 18th November; and Makhiel, one of the most promising boys of the school in Osyut, and three men from Beni Alaij, made a profession of their faith in Christ, and were admitted to the Church. Mr. Currie still remains in this station.

During the year quite a number of Scriptures and other books have been sold, their value amounting to three thousand one hundred and sixty-one piastres.

On leaving Osyut, Areef Fam, a native Christian of Osyut, committed two of his young daughters who had been in Miss McKown's school, to our care, to be educated in our Female Boarding School in Cairo, agreeing that they should be kept by us for a term of years. Since then he has brought his third daughter for the same purpose. They are very bright and interesting children, and it is hoped that they will in time become teachers, to bear the light of divine life to their benighted and degraded country-women.

The country all around Osyut is opening up to missionary work, and we have applications made to us for schools which we cannot supply. We need school teachers and native preachers in greater numbers than we can furnish; never was it truer than it is now in all this region: The harvest truly is plenteous but the labourers are few; pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

The novelty, excitement and false impressions incident to the first opening of the mission, and the consequent large numbers which at first attended the schools and the Sabbath services, have all passed off, and the numbers in attendance are reduced to that standard which is always to be expected in the early stages of a new station. Osyut, with its surrounding country, is a fine field for missionary labour. The work has been nobly commenced; it needs to be patiently and perseveringly carried on. To be so conducted, we need missionary premises for residence for two missionary families, with rooms for schools, male and female, and for a Church for Sabbath services. Besides, before we can look on the station as fully and efficiently occupied, a medical missionary is most imperiously needed for this region. It is too much of a risk to run to send off families from 250 to 300 miles away from any reliable medical aid in a country, where, by the climate and other circumstances, foreigners are peculiarly exposed.

**Mednet.**

This city is situated about fifty miles south of Cairo, and about thirty west of the river, and contains a population of about twenty-five thousand, of whom six thousand are Copts. It is the metropolis of the province of Fayoum, which comprises sixty-eight villages and although the district is surrounded by desert, yet the soil is fertile, and well watered by artificial canals supplied from the Nile. At present the city is somewhat difficult of access; but it is reported that the Pasha purposes constructing a railroad between this and some point on the river.

Messrs. Lansing and Ewing having explored the field, reported in favour of occupying it as a mission station, so that Presbytery, at their meeting held on the 27th of December, 1865, resolved to do so. It was also resolved that the Rev. Mr. Harvey and wife be located there permanently—Dr. Lansing to accompany them in order to commence the work, and to remain until the following meeting of Presbytery, when the Rev. Mr. Ewing would take his place and remain until the close of the year. Accordingly, on the
17th of January, 1866, Dr. Lansing, Mr. Harvey and wife, Priest Makar, and a young man from the Fayoum who had been attending the Cairo school, left Cairo and arrived at Medinet on the 23d. They found a house vacant, which, after some alterations and repairs, would answer the purposes of a Church, school rooms, and dwelling house, at least for a time. This house was rented for five years upon reasonable terms, and the work of preparing it for the use of the mission commenced. Many of the people called upon the brethren, and extended to them a cordial welcome to the city; and as some of them were disposed to come to the house in the evening for religious conversation, arrangements were immediately made for holding meetings every night, for the reading and exposition of the Scriptures and prayer. These meetings have been held during the greater part of the year, with an attendance of from eight to twenty men, of whom some attended regularly, while others came occasionally. Much interest has been manifested by those who attended, and by this means many have been instructed concerning the truth of the Gospel, who otherwise would still be ignorant of it.

On the first Sabbath after their arrival, Dr. Lansing preached to those who assembled in the “upper room,” and from that time until he left for Cairo on the 7th of March, the Gospel was preached regularly every Sabbath. From this time there were no regular services until the arrival of Rev. Mr. Ewing on the first of April, when they were resumed, and continued until the close of the year, with an average attendance of twenty-seven.

The Coptic priests knowing that many of their people were attending the meetings at the mission house, and fearing lest they might lose some of them, obtained from the patriarch a document denouncing the American missionaries as false teachers, wolves in sheep’s clothing &c., and warning the people against having anything to do with them, upon the penalty of excommunication. This paper was read in the Coptic Church on the 4th of March, and as this was the first bill against Protestants published in the Fayoum, the immediate effect of it was to drive away almost all who had formerly frequented the meetings. About two months afterwards the fear which this paper occasioned in some measure passed away, so that several persons who were formerly afraid to come near the house, ventured both during the week and on Sabbaths, and still continue to attend the services.

The ordinance of baptism has been dispensed once during the year, the infant daughter of Priest Makar being the subject of it. The Lord’s supper has also been dispensed, on which occasion six persons were admitted to the privileges of the Church, on profession of their faith, after a satisfactory examination, and thus the nucleus of a congregation was formed in this new station.

A boys’ school was opened as soon as a room could be prepared, and although for a few weeks there were only two scholars, they have increased until now thirty are enrolled, with an average attendance of twenty-eight. The boys soon become attached to the school, so that when they begin to come, there has been no difficulty in keeping them, or in having them attend regularly. A majority of them have made commendable progress in their studies, and as the New Testament is the text book their young minds are being stored with truths which are able to make them wise unto salvation, through faith, which is in Christ Jesus.

It was not convenient to open a girls’ school proper, until the 1st of July. Since that time forty-five names have been enrolled, though there have not been more than twenty-eight in actual attendance at one time. They receive lessons daily in reading and sewing, besides the usual religious instructions, and some of them have made such progress as to be able to read in the New Testament. At one time there were eight Mohammedan girls in the school; but seven of them left because the religion of Jesus was taught. The eighth one still remains, and another has since entered, both of whom seem as much interested in the Scripture lessons as the Coptic girls.

Thus the work has been commenced and carried on during the year, and although the patriarch, priests and many of the people have united in their opposition to it, still the Lord has prospered his own cause, so that we have occasion to bless His name for the favour he has shown us during the past year, and to be encouraged for the future.

Ghous.

To this place, situated about 500 miles, above Cairo, and 15 below ancient Thubes Makheli el Beliane, accompanied by Yusoph el Rulkase, were sent in May last to open a new station. The way had been providentially prepared for them, first, by the zealous teaching of Fam Stephanas, the Government collector of the town, who for years has nobly held up the Gospel banner in his native town, and secondly, by a quarrel which had taken place between the bishop and his priests, the result of which combined with the growing Protestantism of the town, was that the bishop excommunicated the priests, and removed to Negadeh on the opposite side of the river. Our friends promptly entered the
open door which he Lord had thus set before them, and zealously taught the people, and
preached the word in their own hired house, and from house to house. When Brother
Lansing reached Ghous in his late trip in the Upper Country, authorized by Presbytery
to administer sealing ordinances to those whom he might deem qualified therefor, and or-
ganize a Church, he found a large number of earnest and intelligent applicants for com-
munion, and after due examination and instruction twenty five persons (viz 14 males and
11 females) were admitted to the Lord's table on Sabbath, the 4th November. On the
following day a Church organization was effected and ex-priest Makhiel el Beliane was
unanimously chosen pastor of the infant Church. Three elders and three deacons were
also elected and a petition, signed by the male members of the Church and a number of
adherents, was prepared and forwarded to Presbytery for the ordination of these persons
to their respective offices.

A month later, by direction of the mission, Makhiel left Ghous and came to Cairo for
the purpose of being ordained to the pastorate to which he had been chosen, and to re-
move, permanently, his family to Ghous; and we trust the Lord will acknowledge this in-
fant Church as "a branch of his planting, the work of his hand, that he may be glorified."
There is in connection with his station a school, containing twenty boys, taught by two
brothers who were formerly the teachers of the Coptic school at an expense of only eight
dollars per month to the mission, the balance of their support being contributed by the
parents of the children.

Mansoura.

This station was opened in November last, and has since been efficiently occupied by
Awid Hanna, who has regularly sustained services on the Lord's day, assisted occasion-
ally by members of the mission from Cairo and Alexandria. The average attendance of
adults on the ministration of the word is about 20. The male and female schools have
greatly prospered though the latter has latterly suffered for want of a competent teacher.
At present the members in attendance are 54 boys and 26 girls.

This station is much indebted to Mr. Gibran Isaac for accommodation in one of his
houses, free of rent. The house is worth $200 per annum.

The work at this station has been subjected to a most determined and bitter opposition
from the clergy of the different sects, but we have reason to thank the Lord that He has
hitherto turned the counsels of our enemies into confusion, and also raised up for us
several staunch friends.

Respectfully submitted

B. F. PINKERTON Moderator.
G. LANSING Clerk.

V.---China.

CANTON, on the Canton or Pearl River, 70 miles from the sea. Mission began

In this mission the Rev. Mr. Nevin has continued at his labours another
year single-handed and alone, so far as help from this country was con-
cerned. And though the Board has had little word from the mission during
the year, it is gratifying to state, as we learn from the Annual Report of
the mission, received while we are preparing this Statement, this devoted
missionary has been able to continue at his work during the year, has
been steadily engaged in preaching and teaching, and it is believed has
made an increasingly wide and favourable impression on the minds of the
people. The field is white for the harvest. The vast masses of the people
are accessible, and though there are missionaries of the American Board
and of American and British churches around him, his work is wide
and most pressing in its demands. Most earnestly does he ask an appropria-
tion of $5000 to furnish a suitable residence for a missionary family,
and also two good men and suitable appropriations to establish a mission
on a proper basis. These demands the Board feel are most just and
ought to be at once and fully meet. Too long, far too long, has this
brother been without a co-labourer from our church in this country, and
still is without a fixed home or any suitable mission premises. Not a dol-
lar of the $5000 appropriated last year for his new building have the Board been able to send during the year. These things ought not to continue so, and the Board most earnestly again commend the case to the thorough consideration and action of the Assembly. At the beginning of the year we were able to send from the first moneys that came into the Treasury two thousand dollars to him for the erection of mission buildings. Why should he not at once also have the amount now asked for, and that will provide for him the home which he so much needs?

The Rev. Mr. Nevin says, in his Annual Report:

I find that the time has again come, when I should give some account of the past year. At the outset, I cannot help but express my regret that the report must of necessity be characterized by the 'solitary' feature, which has hitherto been a constant in its expression. I had hoped that it would have been permitted me to have written about some of the year, and not merely my 'articles,' to say the least, unimportant to the Board, as to the plans and projects of other missionaries, or the direction of other missionary work. I write, too, with some confusion of face when I recall some of the speeches made at the last Assembly. For my own sake, I trust that much of what was there said was not drawn from anything I had written, and feel persuaded that hints from others were over-conceived, and too highly cast. It is my most earnest prayer that 'glorious things' shall not only be spoken of, but done for, the work here, and all the 'blessing and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.'

During the year, I have left undone many things which I had purposed doing, and done many which I had not anticipated would have fallen to my lot. You are aware that I have been in charge of the A. B. C. F. M. Station at Canton since June 1, 1865. You also will remember why it was that I undertook those duties, and that I expected Mr. Vrooman would return in a few months, against which time I most earnestly hoped that we would have been enabled to secure permanent premises for ourselves. But the providence of God has ordered otherwise; and with this disappointment several other plans of work have fallen to the ground for the time. Mrs. Vrooman, after lingering for over a year, died at Brooklyn, California, on the 29th of August. In the spring of 1866, Dr. Ball, of the A. B. C. F. M., also died after a long illness, and a service of twenty-eight years in the East. His family soon sailed for England, (Mrs. B. being a Scotch lady,) leaving Mrs. Bonney sole occupant of the station. Failing health compelled her to resign her post, and she sailed for home on the 28th of December last. Thus the station is entirely vacant, and I am assured (not officially) that it will now be given up by the Board. It is a matter of sincere regret to see that circumstances indicate such a step, and the more so, as this is the first and oldest station of the Board in China.

In the midst of all these changes, many cares have devolved on me. It has also been my privilege as well as duty to have charge of the Mission Church, and to have established a Bible class with a number of the girls in Mrs. Bonney's school. This class I kept up until near the close of the year, when the school was disbanded, preparatory to Mrs. Bonney's return home. During the year four of the girls were baptized, and admitted to communion in the Mission Church, so I have felt that my labours have not altogether been in vain. The two native assistants of the mission have also been under my direction, and have kept up regular preaching services in the chapel connected with the house in which we reside. Thus, whilst hinderances have stood in the way as to my own proposed work, I have found profitable employment in another direction. Moreover, for my services you will notice that you are indebted to the A. B. C. F. M. for some four or five hundred dollars contribution in the way of house rent.

Of direct labour in my own mission, I have kept up my preaching service as regularly as I was able. You will see that I have dispensed with a chair during the greater portion of the year, and walked my six miles (to and from my chapel) as often as my day of preaching occurred. The course pursued was that indicated in my previous report, and I have been enabled to get down to the last chapter of Luke. I have also, in course of familiar exposition at family prayer with the Chinese in our house, gone over the Four Gospels and twelve chapters of Acts. The portion of Scripture read is in the book language, in which exercise those who are able to read take part. I then render it into colloquial, and explain the doctrinal, historical, and geographical phrases of the text. That my labours have been weak, I am painfully conscious, but that they shall not be in vain in the Lord, I am as fully persuaded. The attendance on regular service in my Chapel has been good, and the privilege and advantage of widely disseminating the truth have been equal to those of the last year. Whilst no one has been brought to acknowledge and trust in the
Saviour, my heart has been greatly cheered by the voluntary declaration of some to begin a work of reformation. They confess themselves to be great sinners in their own sight, and loathsome to themselves, but have not attained to a conscious conviction of sin in the sight of God. I do feel that they have taken the first step in the right direction, and pray God to deepen those convictions, until from the depths of darkness they shall look up and see that there is an opening whose light is visible, and by it a way of escape, solely by the grace of God and the love of the Saviour lifting them up. Self-atonement for sins by good works is a doctrine widely maintained by the Chinese. The effect however, is rather to confirm them in the habitual practice of sin than to bring about a work of reformation. Their whole theory of ethics is calculated to deaden the moral perceptions and sensibilities, and hence, their professions and lives are as widely separated as the most stringent laws and customs, founded in the most patent relations and necessities of man to man will permit. Thus the Christian heart is pained and astounded to see their utter indifference to the realities of eternity, and their eager, passionate pursuit of those things which the world proposes as substantial satisfaction for the craving void to be found in every natural heart. As I have before written you, the great majority of the Chinese look upon foreigners as great merchants or government officials, and imagine that if they can only get into the employ of the foreigner they will have a comfortable support, and be enabled to live their pockets a la mode chinoise, as do the underlings in the Yamsuns and in the residences and establishments of the wealthy. Notwithstanding representations that no one need come to me with false professions in hope of bettering their temporal affairs, I am occasionally beset by an applicant who vexes by impertinence, disgusts by genuine Chinese self-esteem and derogation of foreigners, and excites commiseration for the wretched degradation of his heart. He tells his story with bare-faced falsehood written all over his face, and with a shallow deception that would be evident to a child, trusting that the foreigner will not detect it, whilst he knows that a Chinaman would instantly see through his design. To give you some idea of these men, allow me to relate one instance. During one of my preaching services, I observed an elderly man with a grey beard making great efforts (in fact, he overdid it) to manifest a deep interest in what I was saying. On my way home, he accosted me on the street, just as some police officers were dragging a criminal off to jail by his queue, and said: "The times are very hard, sir."

"True," I replied, "trade is dull, provisions scarce, and mouths abound."

"Just so," he said, "and I am hard pressed. Could you not give me some help? I can do all kinds of work about a house or hong required by foreigners, possess natural gifts in the healing art, and best of all, can help you preach the Gospel."

"But, friend, you mistake; it does not belong to me to call you or any other man to preach the Gospel of Christ."

"Yes, yes," he replied, "but you see I only want to earn my rice. I really am in straits. I have three sons, one aged twenty-nine, one twenty-six, and one twenty-two years. One is employed in Macao in a money changer's shop, and—"

"Yes I see, but at present I have as many employees as I have work for. Besides, it seems strange to me that an old grey-headed man, with three sons, should be obliged to go out to work for his rice."

"It is strange and very hard, sir," "but the boys are dissipated and worthless."

"How is that? Did their father not bring them up to honest and industrious habits?"

"Oh yes, he did; but they got into bad company and were led to ruin in brothels, gambling hells, etc."

"Strange, then, that such reckless villains should be employed in such a responsible position as in a money changer's shop!"

"Hem—well—yes, but you see I can make myself generally useful—and skilful to heal, etc." (going over his former self-recommendation.) Just at that moment I observed a man seated at the side of the Great West gate through which we were passing, who was afflicted with an ulcerated leg—a sight you never see in the United States.

"Very well, then, here is a case, and many witnesses are present. Make trial of your skill, and establish your name, and then you will no longer be in want."

"Just so," said the bystanders, "let him begin now, when all can see and attest his skill." (For I had stated his claims to the crowd.)

"Yes I see, but at present I have as many employees as I have work for. Surely an outlay of two or three dollars would be a cheap rate for a lucrative practice and an honest livelihood."
"True," he said, "but he could not get access to patients without being known. They would not employ him without some evidence that he was an established, and not a vagrant practitioner, and that he was really a man of skill."

"There is no resource then," I replied, "but to establish a reputation; and I have a capital plan to propose, viz: open a small but respectable shop, and put up a shingle, clearly stating your qualifications, and making known that for a definite period, medicines and advice would be gratuitously furnished to all applicants, in order that all might be satisfied that you are an honest and reliable man, that there is no deceit and hypocrisy in your character. In a word, showing that you are such a man as the Gospel of Jesus Christ teaches us we should be, of pure heart, upright conduct, fearing God, and——"

"Good day, sir;" "I have to call here to see a friend on important business," he said, as he disappeared suddenly by a cross street, which just at the moment furnished him an avenue of escape. This will give you a tolerably fair idea of one feature of our annoyances, and sources of commiseration and pity for these poor blind heathen, who are ever ready to sell themselves, soul and body, to do iniquity, if thereby any paltry gain of the passing hour can be made to accrue to themselves. And the more we see of such things, the more do we feel the pressing need of the Gospel to deliver the Chinese from their prayers, and when they "do their alms," to cast in a mite for the idolaters of China. I undertake such a project, when I am only able to get on so slowly here.

And what I equally, if not more intensely, desire for the moment, is that some five or six miles from Canton, and open a station. He assured me that an eligible location could be obtained, and the people would gladly hear the Gospel message. I intend, if possible, to look further into the case; but hitherto, I have felt that I could not undertake such a project, when I am only able to get on so slowly here.

I enter upon the new year with hope, and ask the church at home to remember us in their prayers, and when they "do their alms," to cast in a mite for the idolaters of China. Is it not a vice of the Lord in China. Is it not a virtue to take up the cross and follow our Lord. I see and hear, and by all that I know of the gracious purpose of God to man, and what—ever may be the set time for its fulfillment; and my constant inquiry at the throne is, "How long, O, Lord, how long?" Some time since, a man asked me to go to a village some five or six miles from Canton, and open a station. He assured me that an eligible location could be obtained, and the people would gladly hear the Gospel message. I intend, if possible, to look further into the case; but hitherto, I have felt that I could not undertake such a project, when I am only able to get on so slowly here.

The calls from the church at home are urgent; but are they special to every young man? If so, the church has long misunderstood her charter; and if, for one, do not comprehend her mission and design, if it be not one great mission to the whole world. And if it be not so, every feature of the Foreign and Home field must be utterly swept away, and no external effort beyond her own doors be made, until out of absolute fullness she unintentionally spills over all around the circumference. Providence often indicates that the call is not to the Foreign field. Sometimes, I admit. But are we always careful to distinguish between Providence as a test and Providence as an indication? During the last seven years, I think that in my personal experience I have had many tests, but have not been able to recognize them as indications with respect to duty. Amidst them all, I bless God that he has given me a "mind to work," and that has its foundation in His blessed promises, which are sure. How to indicate my feelings, I know not a better figure than that it seems as though I were cast into a deep, dense, impenetrable jungle, where I am trying to effect a "clearing." All around is darkness and confusion, and only when I look up, can I see the clear light of day. Now it may be many years before these roots and stones are cleared away, and the cultivated soil bearing its hundred fold; but that day will come. Are there, then, not two young men, out of the many to whom I hope this special call will come, who will be found ready to sacrifice the present to the future, and come out to the work of the Lord among the heathen of China? Two is the smallest grant that ought to be asked or allowed at present. Two now and at least one more within two years, and after that, as great and as frequent additions to the force as
China's proportionate share of the benevolence of the church shall warrant and demand for the maintenance of efficient and aggressive work. I beg the Assembly and every young brother in the ministry, to remember that by the time an immediate reinforcement can arrive, I shall have been seven years on the ground; and by the time he or they may be ready to take up the work, I may be as nearly ready to lay it down. I am now past the average meridian of later missionary life in China, and have more than filled up the average full term of the earlier period.

In addition to my regular preaching service, I have availed myself, as heretofore, of tract agency. At the close of each service, tracts and portions of the Scriptures have been freely, and, as far as possible, judiciously distributed. How far this method of making known the Gospel has been successful, I know not. It is much here as it is with you, an almost literal casting of bread upon the waters, and in some instances may be of more real benefit than the proclamation of the word by mouth. Many—the great majority of all our hearers—are simply passers by, who stop for a few moments, and may be unable to gather any definite idea from the detached portions of a discourse which they may hear; whilst a tract carried away may be read at leisure and understood. By the kindness of the Tract Society, a grant of $200 was made to the China Mission, which realised here the sum of $139.93. Having a surplus of books from last year, and not being able to make an excursion into the country, I have been enabled to keep up my supply by the expenditure of $14.65, (printing pages, 63,000) Tract funds, and $2.28 from the general mission fund. There will then be no need to ask for an appropriation for 1867, as the balance of funds on hand will be amply sufficient.

With reference to my school, I do not know how to speak. I at once wish I could say something, but I must speak out, if only to remind you that so desirable a feature of my work is entirely wanting for the year, and no hopes of its resuscitation during 1867. The extra cares above attended to have engrossed all my spare time, and the failure to obtain a suitable location for a residence has forced me to leave matters as they stood at the close of '66. To have undertaken the rebuilding of my chapel during the fall of 1866, would have been burdensome, on account of the great distance from our present location, even if the state of the funds in my possession had warranted the step. But the remittance of $2,000, which you made for the building fund, only realized $1,399.31, some $600 less than what I asked for. Whether it would have been sufficient or not, I cannot say, but I feared it would fall considerable short, and hence, I concluded that all things taken together, I had better deny myself for the present, and trust to the fruits of another year. Thus it is that some of my plans have been delayed—only delayed, I trust, for a time; and I hope and pray that a merciful and covenant-keeping God will yet allow me to see their accomplishment, or the execution of others better calculated to manifest his goodness.

Before dismissing this subject, I must make honorable mention of some kind friends whose warm hearts took a lively interest in my school. Being convinced in my own mind that objective as well as oral instruction is of the greatest importance in the training of children, I was anxious to introduce some such system, even if slightly out of place in the order of time and natural gradation, as would lift up the minds of the boys, and turn them towards some of the more evident truths and wonders that are written all over the face of creation. I do not propose here to enter into a defence of such an idea, further than to ask: have the wonders and beauties of architecture, the amazing combinations of science and art, in machinery, manufactures, locomotion, power, etc., wherever and however displayed in their multitudinous and varied forms, and have these things, although their principles or doctrines be not comprehended, no influence on the intellectual and moral development of the youthful minds and hearts that throng your elementary schools? They have. And I wished, and yet hope to be able, to so use such means as shall tend in this direction. Many things, plain to children at home from what they see as well as what they hear, are mysteries and superstitions to the Chinese. Wishing to furnish myself with a pair of globes, a magic lantern, and some views in astronomy and natural history, I sent off by a remittance from Pittsburg by Charles Arbuthnot, Esq., amounting in all to $139.48. Where this money came from I do not know, further than I see by a short communication to the United Presbyterian in April by Dr Gracey, fifty-three dollars were collected by a little girl, daughter of Rev. W. H. Andrew, and whom I remember as a very little girl, lisping the Lord's prayer and the twenty-third Psalm. I am sure that the donors would have felt well repaid if they had seen the crowds who have collected to see the magic lantern exhibited, and heard their quaint expressions of astonishment and gratification.
Having no opportunity to show it to my own school, I gave the public the benefit of it. It has also been exhibited to some of the other mission schools with profit. When the lantern arrived it was furnished with a Kerosene lamp and a glass chimney that would not fit, and was destitute of a reflector, which is a very important part of the apparatus. The former being useless here, I drew a design and had a Chinese artisan to make one for oil, to which, with great labor, I fitted a parabolic reflector made by my own hands, and poorly electro-plated with silver by a Parsee in Hong Kong. I also made and fitted an Argand burner to the lamp, and succeeded so well all around that a very good light was the result. I think that some of the older people as well as the little girls would have been much amused to see the Chinese coming to the exhibition, every man with a lighted lantern in his hand, and looking rather dubious when required to put it out. After the entertainment was over, I took the lamp out of the dark lantern and set it on the stand, to enable the people to see their way out. In this I unwittingly revealed another wonder. "What kind of fire is that he's got?" says one and another. Looking into the reflector, the flame of the lamp could not be distinguished from the disk of glaring light, and hence, it was beyond their comprehension how such a kind of light could be produced. One man came up and looked at it as well as his dazzled eyes could do from the front; he then looked around at the back (where no light was visible of course) to see where the fire was. This he did repeatedly, and could not comprehend even when I told him, and pointed out where the flame was, because he could only see a "moon of light" through it. I then had to turn the light down and put the lamp aside before the crowd could be prevailed upon to disperse. I know when I again open my school, that the lantern will be a source of entertainment, and that I can also make it a medium of instruction to the boys. But with reference to the globes sent, I have had news to tell. They are magnetic, and nothing better of the kind could have been furnished for the school. I cannot speak too highly of them as aids to education, but unfortunately they were utterly ruined by salt water on board the ship. Several books were also destroyed by the same cause. However, Mr. Rich had insured them, and has since received indemnity to the amount of $41.85 currency, which I will add to the China building fund when remitted to me, as it will be shortly. I have no doubt the donors will quite agree with this arrangement under the circumstances.

With regard to a dwelling house, I can hardly tell how matters will stand for '67. We have been occupying Mr. Vrooman’s house, as you are aware. He now expects to return in April, and in that case, we will have to move. By way of providing for this contingency, I have taken over the house which Mrs. Bunney vacated in December last. This step I felt constrained to take, as this was the only chance which offered us an outlet in case Mr. Vrooman’s return. It is much nearer my chapel than our present location, but is in a most undesirable position in other respects. One side fronts on a street, and the base is skirted by a sewer, reeking with the wash and filth from a number of bean-curd shops. The effluvia and stench are almost unendurable at times, and the miasma arising from it, and the point where it empties into the river at low tide, is calculated to bring on violent fever at any moment that the bodily system may be susceptible from prostration by heat or otherwise. We are exceedingly anxious to accept such a risk, if there be any way to avoid it; and in any case, we hope before long to be enabled to secure permanent premises elsewhere. Perhaps this year will find us in possession of sufficient funds to buy and build. We most earnestly hope so, and prefer taking the above chance, (on the supposition that it will only be temporary,) to renting and repairing with a sacrifice to the church of one or two thousand dollars. The rent and janitor’s wages will be $30 per month, from December 20th, 1866, until we move in, when the rent will be $16. By paying rent on the house we can hold it, otherwise, it will go back to the owner, and we would be unable to rent it again. You will then understand that what I am now doing seems to be the best for the present; and that hereafter, if circumstances indicate anything better, it shall be attempted.

With regard to the funds and expenses, the several statements appended to this Report will be clear, excepting the item of “Subscriptions.” One of these, for “Notes and Queries on China and Japan,” amounts to $4.00 per annum. The publication is in pamphlet form, and issued monthly, being modeled after a periodical of the same name, "Notes and Queries," published in England. The scope of the pamphlet is a general and critical discussion and interchange of views with reference to all topics peculiar to the two countries named. In this respect it will in some measure take the place of the old "Chinese Repository" so ably conducted for twenty years by the late Dr. Bridgman. Being conscious of the value of such a work, I have not only subscribed for one copy in my own name, but have also taken one for the mission, so that if it should grow up to a substantial and valuable repository of varied information from all quarters of the globe, the future members of the mission will hold a full file, as a great boon and help in the investigation of the
many questions which occur in their work and literary pursuits. A more immediate bearing on missionary topics similarly recorded and discussed is promised in another monthly, also beginning with this year, and called "The Missionary Recorder." It is issued in newspaper form at present, but may in time, assume the pamphlet style. Such a paper is exceedingly desirable, and will prove to be a valuable collection of data and general information with regard to our work. I have also taken one copy for myself and one for the mission; Subscription at present, $1.00 per year. The "Queries" are published by the "China Mail" office, Hong Kong, and the "Recorder" is issued from the American Methodist Episcopal Mission Press, Fuhchou.

Our general health during the year has been good; but little interruption having been caused by bodily indisposition. Of our little aches and pains we do not wish to speak; and would render thanks unto the Lord for all his goodness and mercy.

With a few words respecting one other topic, I shall close this statement for 1866. You have asked for my views in regard to one or two subjects that have been before the Assembly. It is a delicate matter, when possible to be avoided, to speak with reference to the doings of so grave and reverend a body, and hence, I have not heretofore made mention of what I shall now say. With regard to the "five year" rule, I heartily endorse the spirit of brother Barr's remarks thereon. I am perfectly satisfied in my own mind that in the end it will be practically discarded, or will eventually give rise to dissatisfaction among all parties concerned. And with reference to the proposition to send men out to any portion of the foreign field to pursue their theological studies preparatory to ordination, my vote is emphatically nay.

With most fervent prayer for a spirit of wisdom and love, liberality and devotion to be given unto the Assembly of '67, and consecration and zeal to fill the hearts of the young and the strong in the whole church, and especially in the ministry, and for peace and quiet to descend upon the fathers and mothers in Israel,

I am, as ever, your obedient servant, in China,

J. C. NEVIN.

VI.—Italy.


The past year has been an eventful one in this deeply interesting land. More than ever before, the way has been opened up for the spread of gospel truth. Without any interruption, though often greatly worn down, the Rev. Mr. Moorehead has prosecuted his work. Continuing his membership in our United Presbyterian Church, he is also still under the auspices of the American and Foreign Christian Union, and many of our congregations and people are contributing to its Treasury for his support. Having charge of a large and important section of Italy, he has introduced the gospel into numerous places, and very widely a spirit of earnest inquiry for evangelical truth has been awakened among the people. At Torano a church has been formally organized and its members hold steadily and growingly on their way. In various other places there are other anxious inquirers. The waters of Italy seem indeed to be stirred. Light is breaking in. The word of God may now have free course. Only let it run, and who can doubt it will be glorified!

Rev. W. G. Moorehead reports as follows:

The past year has been an eventful one in the history of mixed and free Italy. It has been and still is the work of the American and Foreign Christian Union, with other Christians, to spread among these emancipated millions, the knowledge of the true Gospel, stripped of the falsehood and error with which Popery has clothed it. This Gospel, which is the power of God, is making headway in the midst of intense darkness. Churches and stations, as beacon-lights, are throwing their cheering and illuminating rays far into the night of superstition and paganism, falsely called Christianity. Colporteurs have gone where the evangelist had not time to go. The Word of God and evangelical books and tracts have been scattered broadcast over the land. On the one hand Popery has been
laid bare in all her defilement and deformity; on the other the pure Gospel, with sublime power and living light, by the contrast, has been presented and made all the more attractive.

**Portoferraio.—Island of Elba.**

The progress in this church, though not marked, has been steady; several have been added on a profession of their faith; one excluded, and three reclaimed. Harmony, zeal, and devotedness characterize, to an eminent degree, the Christians of this place. Sabbath school numbers eighteen scholars.

**Longone.**

An out-station, distant eight miles. Preaching has been regularly maintained. The audience has ranged from ten to forty. In December, a new station, Reoalto, was opened for evangelization. For a time the audience was very large, but the meeting was assaulted with furious persecutions instigated by priests and friars, who roused fanatics against the work. The consequence was that many withdrew who had not the courage to withstand. As one evangelist could not properly care for the three stations, another, Sig. Callegari, has been sent to help as colporteur and evangelist. He is stationed at Longone, and with the regular evangelist, Sig. Drachelto, is extending the knowledge of the truth to different parts of the island. Books sold on the island—300 copies of the Evangelical Almanac.

**Foiano.**

The devoted evangelist stationed in this town has been exceedingly active throughout the year. Besides preaching regularly in Torano, he has from month to month traveled over the country in a radius of more than thirty miles, evangelizing wherever opportunity offered in the public squares, cafes, etc., and selling books. A deep and solid work has been done in Torano and the adjacent villages and cities; several have professed to be converted. Though persecuted and calumniated, the influence for good of the Christians at Torano is being greatly extended, so that those most prejudiced, even now, invite the evangelist to visit them privately and speak the Gospel of Christ, and this is done too by the most influential families of the place.

Sold 400 copies of Evangelical Almanac, and Bibles and Tracts to the amount of 45 francs.

**Torano.**

The church and the schools are here in an excellent state; some have been added to the former; one of the original members has entered into her rest. A night school has been conducted in the winter and is well organized, which the enemies even admit to be far superior to the parish school taught by a priest; not a few have taken their children from the latter and sent them to the former. The Sabbath school of twenty-five scholars is excellently organized.

**Carrara.**

This station suffered much from the conduct of the former evangelist; still all things bid fair for the establishment of an important and prominent work. Sig. Costari, a converted lawyer and a very promising young man, is gathering a large audience; his influence is already felt and is largely extending. The schools are in a most flourishing condition. An English friend presented to them two large maps of Europe and Italy. A night school has been conducted all winter. The Sabbath school has twenty five scholars.

**Sarzana.**

A private meeting has been held since July. Now an excellent evangelist is stationed here and five meetings have weekly been held since the first of March. A large audience, generally 100, attend, and are intensely interested in the Word of Life; several are deeply impressed. A private meeting is also held for some women who have not the courage to come openly. We are greatly encouraged. The Sabbath school is conducted under the care of Mrs. Moorehead.

**Spezia.**

Here a book depot has been planted and a faithful man stationed, whose duty it will be to travel from place to place selling, distributing and evangelizing. Sold in two months 900 Evangelical Almanacs, Bibles and Tracts to the value of 35 francs.

**Tellaro.**

A short time since, a man called on me from this place, and in the name of four others asked for an evangelist. The evangelist of Torano visited and made a favorable report. We hope to send Sig. Martinetti once a week, that the Gospel may be preached to those who, of their own accord, ask for it.
Levante and Tirizzano.
From both these places we have had earnest solicitations to place evangelists, which we have not been able to do for want of funds.

Salerno.
The devoted labourer here is instant in season and out of season, in preaching Christ to the Neapolitans. He visits families and the neighboring villages, holds meetings in his own house, talks and disputes in the streets, and visits the military stations. His visits range from 160 to 200 per month.
Thus, dear brother, you see how wide a door God is opening for his Gospel in this region. May He, in whose name we labour, lead you to greater efforts in His cause.
W. G. Moorhead.

NEW MISSIONARIES.
In view of the encouraging condition and prospects of our missions at this time, and of the opening fields around them, it is devoutly wished our church could go in at once and abundantly occupy. But as the means which we can reasonably command are limited, and as it is most desirable to have only well qualified persons and such as can enter immediately upon the work, the Board will only propose the following names for appointment by the General Assembly:—Rev. Joseph McKelvey, of the Presbytery of Mercer, for the mission in China. Misses— for Female Teachers under the care of the Egyptian Mission, and Mr. George W. Simpson to be Missionary Physician up the Valley of the Nile. While, however, these names are submitted, the Board most earnestly ask that the Assembly will act in view of the state of the finances, as they will appear in a subsequent part of this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS.
The Board respectfully propose to the Assembly the following recommendations:—

First. That the churches and the friends of missions be urgently asked to forward their offerings for this cause to the Treasurer by the first of the year, and that Financial Agents and Treasurers of congregations and Missionary societies be renewedly directed to remit to him funds at the earliest moment possible after they have come into their hands.

Second. That the action of the General Assembly of 1865, expressly granting all foreign missionaries the liberty of returning to this country every five years, be reconsidered.

Third. That whereas, it is according to our Form of Church Government that Presbyteries should have some direct supervision of the work of the churches; and whereas, it is believed the interests of Presbyteries and congregations in the cause and the work of foreign missions would be promoted by having this done; therefore, it is recommended:—

1. That all Presbyteries appoint each a delegate to the General Assembly to form a body, which, when thus constituted, shall be styled "The Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America,"—that this Board shall meet at least one day before the meeting of the General Assembly each year, and shall continue its existence until the meeting of delegates similarly appointed before the meeting of the next Assembly—that it shall hear the Annual Report
for the General Assembly, and shall devise and recommend to the Assembly and to the churches such plans and measures as may be deemed best for the foreign missionary work in our hands.

2. That the Board now in existence shall be styled, "The Executive Committee of the Board of Foreign Missions," and shall continue to be appointed by the Assembly as it has been, be subject to the same rules and regulations as heretofore, be required to attend to the same duties, to lay its Annual Report and all the information in its power before the Board, and emergencies arising, shall call a meeting of the Board, which shall have power to act with the authority of the Assembly in the case.

Fourth. That the General Assembly renew its recommendation for the general observation in all the churches of the first week in January, 1868, as a Week of Prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the increase of piety, devotion and liberality among the people of God, and for the spread of the gospel and the conversion of the world.

ESTIMATES FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

In view of the deficiency in last year's contributions of moneys to meet the appropriations of the Assembly to pay existing indebtedness and to secure mission premises, especially in China and India—a deficiency amounting to $27,190.25—and in view of the real necessities of our several missions in the midst of the most promising prospects of usefulness and success, the Board feel that nothing less than the following sums are called for, and ought by prayerful, earnest and universal effort be raised and promptly placed in the Treasury, viz: For India $16,487; Egypt $37,264; Syria $4,500; China $9,300; making a total of $67,551 in gold, or $101,327 in currency, as exchange is at the present time.

This amount is called for, (1) to pay the salaries of missionaries, Scripture readers, colporteurs, teachers and the every day necessary expenses of each mission, (2) to send out new missionaries that are so much called for and that ought to be appointed at this Assembly if the means can be provided to sustain them, (3) to pay up past deficiencies and indebtednesses which are burdensome and unworthy of our church and ought not to be suffered to continue an hour, and finally, (4) to build or in some way secure suitable houses for the missions,—one of our most devoted and self-sacrificing and laborious missionaries having been now with his family for years with only a tent for a home, and another of them with a house three miles away from the place where his work has to be daily done. How long, how long shall there be a lack of the means that are so much called for?

That the Assembly may fully understand the financial condition of the Board, the following statement is appended. In round numbers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The present indebtedness of the Board is</td>
<td>$31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current expenses of the coming year, as</td>
<td>101,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>estimated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making a total of</td>
<td>$132,327</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The contributions for 1864 were $78,000
" " 1865 " 55,000
" " 1866 " 63,000
" " 1867, if they do not exceed those of last year, may
be put down at, say, 69,000; leaving thus at the end of the ensuing year, April 30, 1888, a deficit of $63,327.

This is surely startling, and calls for the most serious consideration and action.

**RECAPITULATION.**

Missions, .................................... 5  
Stations, .................................. 32  
Missionaries, (ordained,) . . 18  
(laymen,) . . .  3  
(Females—not wives,) 4  
Native ass'ts, teachers and colp'rs, 55  
Native schools, ........................... 31  
Scholars, ................................. 1260  
Churches, ............................... 9  
Communicants, ............................ 239

**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.**

The terms of office of the following members expire at this meeting:  
By order of the Board.  
W. W. BARR, President.  
J. B. DALES, Corresponding Secretary.

**ACTS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

The Committee to which was referred the Report of the Board of Foreign Missions, respectfully state, that they have examined, with as much care as possible, the various items presented in the report, and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

I. That our sincere thanks are due to God for the preservation of the lives, and for the measure of health the missionaries have enjoyed, and for the success with which he has been crowning their labours.

II. That we express our obligations to His Highness, the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, D. Stuart, Esq., Liverpool, A. Taylor, Esq., Indiana Pa., and others both in great Britain and the United States; also to the American and British and Foreign Bible Society, the American Tract Society, and the Panjaub Government, for their kind services on behalf of, and liberal donations to, the Board and our Missions.

III. That congregations be earnestly urged to have their contributions on behalf of the Foreign Missionary Fund forwarded to the Treasurer by the first of the year; and that Financial Agents of the Presbyteries be instructed to remit to them all moneys on behalf of this fund as early as possible after they have come into their hands.

IV. That the Board be directed to send out during the year, a physician to Egypt, the Rev. Joseph M'Kelvey to China, two female teachers to Egypt, and one to India, if the suitable persons can be found and the funds can be obtained.

V. That the sum of $101,327 is necessary to carry on the Foreign Mission work for the coming year, in addition to $31,000 to make up the present deficit, and that to make up the deficit our congregations be directed to take up special collections before the first of August.

VI. That the matter of reorganizing the Board of Foreign Missions, brought before us in this report, be referred to a committee of seven members, whose duty it shall be to report upon it to the next Assembly.

VII. That in view of the state of the finances of our Board of Foreign Missions, we authorize them to transfer the Trinidad Mission to the Pres-
byterian Church of the Lower Provinces of North America, in case the transfer can be made.

VIII. That the action of the Assembly of 1865, expressly granting to all our foreign missionaries the liberty to return home every five years be, according to the recommendation of the Board, reconsidered.

IX. That we renew our recommendation to all our congregations to spend the first week in January in supplicating the outpouring of the divine Spirit upon the Church and the world.

X. That the Rev. T. H. Hanna and Messrs. Wm. Getty and Thomas Stinson, whose terms of office expire at this meeting, be re-elected.

J. G. ARMSTRONG, Chairman of Com.


ACT OF INCORPORATION.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America have a Board of Foreign Missions composed of Ministers and Laymen, members of the said church, the design of which is the establishing and conducting Christian Missions among the unevangelized or pagan nations, and the general diffusion of Christianity,

AND WHEREAS, the aforesaid Board of Foreign Missions labors under serious disadvantages as to receiving donations and bequests, and as to the management of funds intrusted to them for the purposes designated in their Constitution and in accordance with the benevolent intentions of those from whom such bequests and donations are received; therefore,

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:—

That James Prestley, John B. Dales, Francis Church, Thomas H. Hanna, Samuel C. Huey, William Getty, Thomas Stinson and William W. Barr, citizens of the United States and of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and their successors, are hereby constituted and declared to be a body politic and corporate, which shall henceforth be known by the name of the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and as such shall have perpetual succession, and be able to sue and be sued in all courts of record and elsewhere, and to purchase and receive, take and hold to them and their successors forever, lands, tenements, hereditaments, money, goods and chattels, and all kinds of estate which may be devised, bequeathed or given to them, and the same to sell, alien, demise and convey, also to make and use a common Seal, and the same to alter and renew at their pleasure, and also to make such rules, by-laws and ordinances as may be needful for the government of the said Corporation and not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State. Provided always, that the clear annual income of the real and personal
estate held by this Corporation shall not at any time exceed the sum of twenty thousand dollars. The corporation or persons above named shall hold their offices for three years from the date of this Act and until their successors are duly qualified to take their places, who shall be chosen at such times and in such way and manner as shall be prescribed by the said General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. The said Board hereby incorporated and their successors shall be subject to the direction of said General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, have full power to manage the funds and property committed to their care in such manner as shall be most advantageous, not being contrary to law.

JAMES R. KELLEY, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

D. FLEMING, Speaker of the Senate.

Approved the Twelfth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six.

A. G. CURTIN.

FORM OF A BEQUEST.

I do give and bequeath the sum of——— dollars to the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

FORM FOR REAL ESTATE.

I do give, devise and bequeath all that (describing the property,) unto the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, to have and to hold to them and their successors forever.

ADDRESS OF MISSIONARIES.

Rev. James B. Barr, Sealkote, North India.
James W. Gordon, " "
Miss Elizabeth G. Gordon, " "
Rev. Samuel Martin, " "
Rev. J. C. Nevin, Canton, China.
Rev. Gulian Lansing, D. D., " "
Rev. S. C. Ewing, " "
Rev. John Hogg, " "
Rev. Wm. Harvey, " "
David Strang, " "
Miss M. J. McKown, " "
Miss Sarah Hart, " "
Rev. Andrew Watson, Alexandria, "
Rev. B. F. Pinkerton, " "
Rev. E. Currie, " "
Rev. W. G. Moorehead, Carrara, Italy.
RATES OF POSTAGE.

For the convenience of those corresponding with our missionaries, we subjoin the following rates of postage on letters and newspapers to each of the countries where our missionaries are located:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Mail</th>
<th>Via</th>
<th>¼ oz.</th>
<th>½ oz.</th>
<th>Newspapers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>British Mail</td>
<td>via Southampton</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>French Mail</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Open Mail</td>
<td>via London by Am. Packet, via Southampton</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Prussian closed mail, via Marseilles, via Southampton</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>33</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>British Mail, via Southampton</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>French Mail</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Persons sending letters should write on the envelope by which of the above mails they shall go. All foreign postage must be prepaid.

CONCLUSION.

An earnest and prayerful reading of this report is respectfully urged upon all into whose hands it may fall. Never have the Board been able to present one so full and complete, and never have such interesting statements come from each of the particular missions. No one can read these and feel unacquainted with the condition and prospects of our several missions and of the true modes of carrying them on. This is what is more earnestly desired. Then will a deeper interest be felt in this cause —more prayer will be offered for it—more liberal and cordial contribution will be made to sustain it, and more enlarged success may be expected. May it be thus! ARISE, O LORD, AND PLEAD THINE OWN CAUSE!